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FALL ARTS GUIDE

IT'S FALL. WHETHER YOU'RE A LIVE MUSIC FAN OR A BIG MOVIE BUFF, GET THE LOWDOWN ON WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND BOSTON THIS AUTUMN.

METRO COVER DESIGN BY KATHLEEN COMBS (A PERIOD OF ANIMATE EXISTENCE BY MARIA BARANOVA)

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WELCOME TO WKND

MATT JUUL, BOSTON FEATURES EDITOR

School is in session and pumpkin spice lattes are back on the menu, which can only mean one thing: It's fall. Whether you're a live music fan or a big movie buff, get the lowdown on what's happening around Boston this autumn with our awesome fall arts guide.

PARTY AT THE HATCH SHELL

1 MixFest is bringing a stacked lineup to this year's free concert at the DCR Hatch Shell on Saturday. "American Idol" Season 1 winner Kelly Clarkson headlines the 2017 show, which also features performances by Andy Grammer and Blondie.

GETTY IMAGES

RUMBLE ON THE RIVER

PROVIDED

2 Now in its eighth year, the Rumble on the River fest brings music, food trucks and more to the Harry Parker Boathouse in Brighton on Saturday afternoon. Don't forget to grab a few free brews at the event's beer garden, featuring offerings from Sam Adams, Harpoon and other area breweries.

5 THINGS TO DO

LIGHT 'EM UP

3 The Boston Freedom Rally, affectionately called Hempfest, returns to the Common for three days of stoner fun, beginning on Friday. Now in its 28th year, the festivities will include music, giveaways and probably the munchies. ***For more, see pages 38-39.***

METRO FILE

AHTS IN AUTUMN

HILARY BRONWYN GAYLE/ PARAMOUNT PICTURES

4 From book fest to comedy shows, there's a lot going on in Boston this season. Get a head start on what to do this autumn with our fall arts guide. ***For more, see pages 4-25.***

THE EMMY GOES TO ...

5 Don't forget to tune in, TV fans, because the Emmy Awards are back on CBS Sunday. "Late Show" host Stephen Colbert is ready to bring the laughs as this year's host.

JOHN FILO/CBS

TWEETS

@hannahcharney
@StrongerTheFilm director, producers and stars pose with @Jeffmbauman on the red carpet at @SpauldingRehab

@Patriots
The #Patriots teamed up with @BridgeOTW to help finish a playground build and home renovation this morning!

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Tatiana Maslany on the pressures of making 'Stronger'

The Emmy winner plays Erin Hurley in the Jeff Bauman biopic.

MATT JUUL
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After her award-winning performances in the sci-fi thriller "Orphan Black," Tatiana Maslany is taking on a much different role in "Stronger."

The film stars Jake Gyllenhaal as Jeff Bauman, the Chelmsford native who helped identify one of the bombers after losing his legs in the 2013 Boston Marathon attack. Maslany plays his girlfriend Erin Hurley, who ran in the marathon that day and was integral to Bauman's recovery.

We caught up with the 31-year-old star to talk about her preparations for "Stronger" and the pressures she felt while making the film.

How much time did you spend with Erin?
I spent a few hangs with Erin and got to know her a little bit. For me, it was less so about embodying her mannerisms and things like that, but more so in getting an essence from her and understanding a bit of how she survived this, what kind of person it takes to go through this with somebody. I really took a great amount of emotional strength from her. The idea of running a marathon, not only does that take up stamina, but it takes a mental, psychological strength. She was somehow able to transfer that idea into this marathon of emotion that they go through.

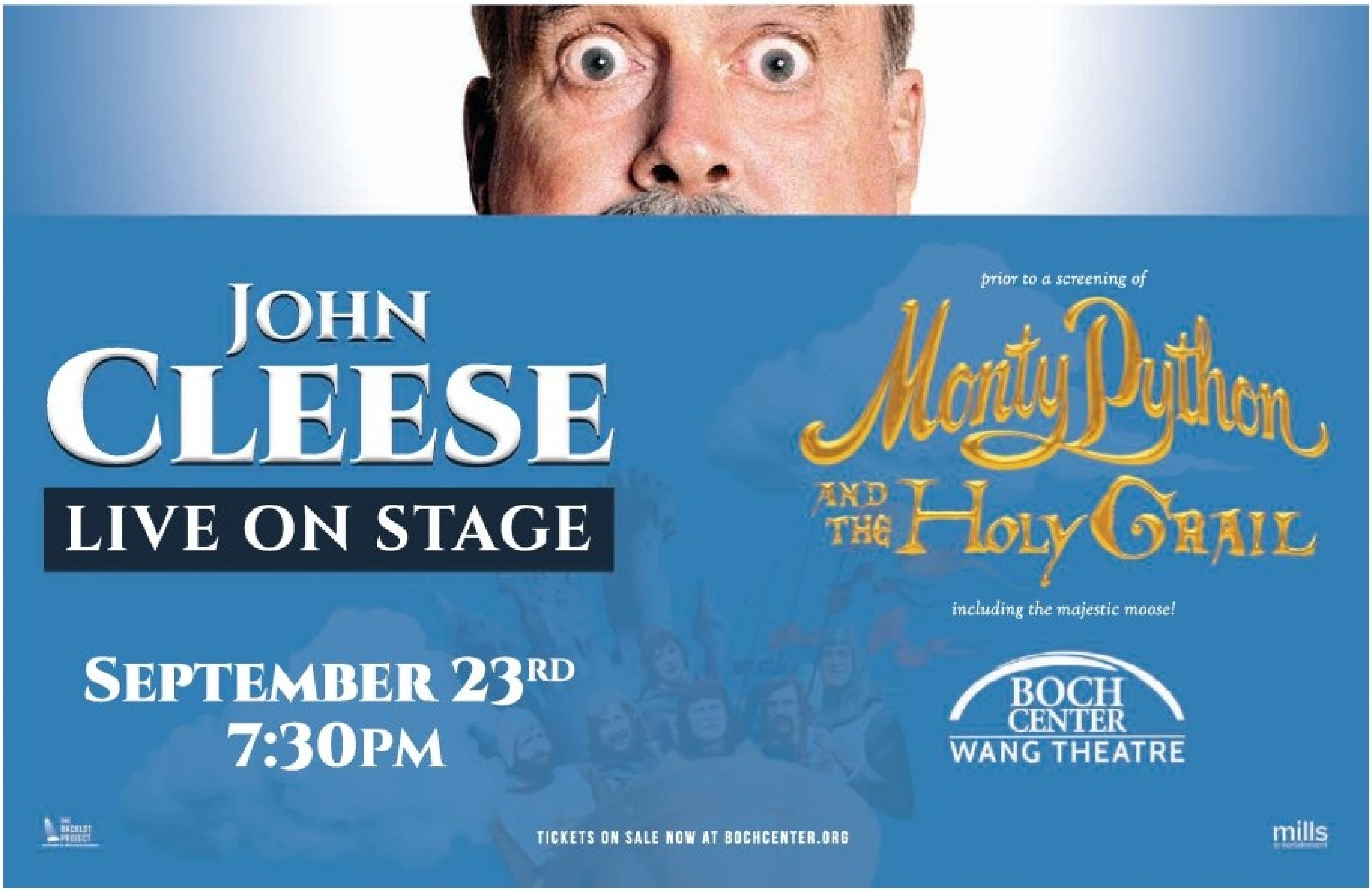
As someone who's in the spotlight, could you to relate to Jeff and Erin's struggle with the media attention?
The one time I really felt it the most acutely while playing Erin was when we were at the Bruins game and it was the first day of shooting. It's the scene where Erin pushes Jeff onto the ice and he waves the flag. When we came out, [the fans] were all yelling, "Jeff!" and there were people from his life who were going, "We love you Jeff," to Jake. I'm there as Erin hearing this crowd and going, "Oh my God. Major fraud alert. How can I stand in this person's shoes? Look at how much this story means to people." That's when I really felt like her. I wanted to hide, like we're not ready to do this. All of this stuff was colliding with this very public thing that was happening.

Considering the current political climate, what are your thoughts on violence in America?
There's so many violent acts happening right now, and the scariest thing is when the people who are supposed to be telling the truth aren't. That's the thing I find most scary. What's amazing is that there are voices speaking up against that.

Coming from Canada, the first time I crossed the border from Vancouver to Seattle, I went to a bank to get money out and there was a cop with a massive gun. I don't feel safer knowing that guy's got this massive gun. There's an expectation of something bad happening. It was totally a culture shock for me.

"Stronger" debuts in theaters on Sept. 22. LIONSGATE/ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

Erin Hurley and Tatiana Maslany GETTY IMAGES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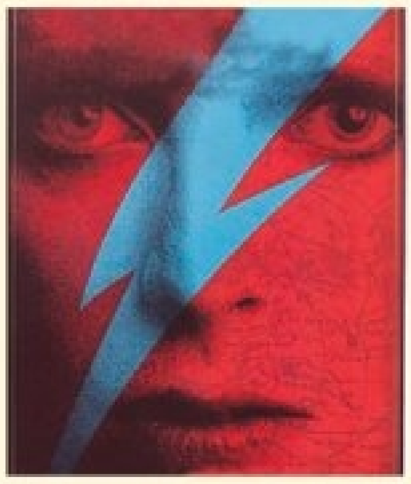

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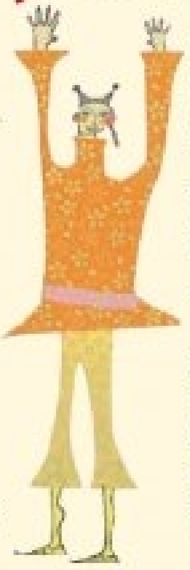

SAT NOV 18 at 10:30AM KAREN K & THE JITTERBUGS
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5 movies Bostonians should see this fall

As Hollywood transitions from summer blockbusters to award season contenders, expect to see a lot of Boston on the big screen as the year comes to a close. From flicks filmed in the Bay State to the latest offerings from Matt and Ben, there are plenty of movies that should pique the interest of locals. Here are five films you definitely have to check out this fall. **MATT JUUL**

PARAMOUNT PICTURES

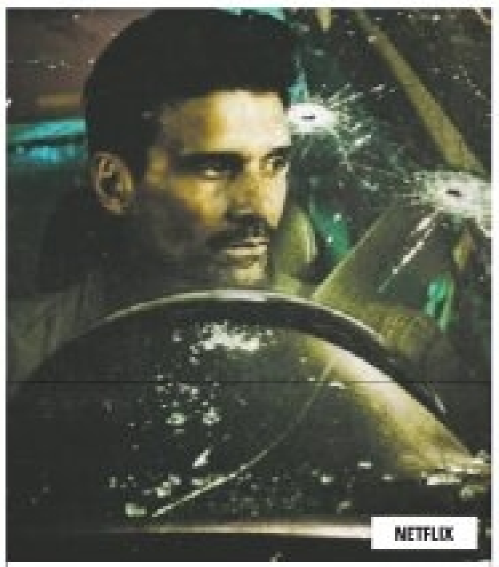
"Daddy's Home 2" – Nov. 10

Mark Wahlberg and Will Ferrell are back as dueling dads Dusty and Brad in the sequel to the 2015 comedy. This time around, fellow Bay State native and WWE star John Cena will give Wahlberg and company a few headaches along the way. In addition, Mel Gibson and John Lithgow are also set to join the cast of "Daddy's Home 2," which was filmed around the Massachusetts area last spring.

"Stronger" – Sept. 22

Jake Gyllenhaal brings the inspiring story of Boston Marathon bombing survivor Jeff Bauman to the silver screen in the upcoming film "Stronger." The movie is a heart-wrenching drama about the Chelmsford native's road to recovery, both personally and physically, after losing both his legs in the 2013 tragedy. "Stronger" filmed all over the Boston area during production, including Fenway Park and the TD Garden.

LIONSGATE/ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

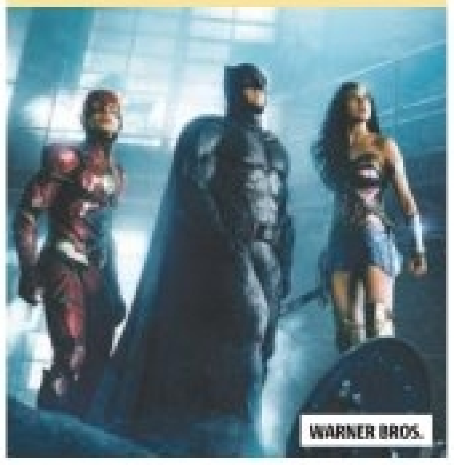

NETFLIX

"Wheelman" – Oct. 20

Boston got a taste of some action movie fun when Netflix's upcoming thriller "Wheelman" filmed in Fort Point last fall. "Captain America" and "Purge" actor Frank Grillo stars in the film, which tells the story of a getaway driver who's on the hunt for the person who betrayed him after a bank robbery.

"Justice League" – Nov. 17

Batfleck's back! Well, for now at least. There has been plenty of speculation about Ben Affleck's future as the Dark Knight in DC Comics' ever-growing movie universe. Even his younger bro Casey has fueled the rumor mill. At least fans will get one more flick featuring the Patriots-loving, Oscar winner as Batman in the upcoming blockbuster "Justice League."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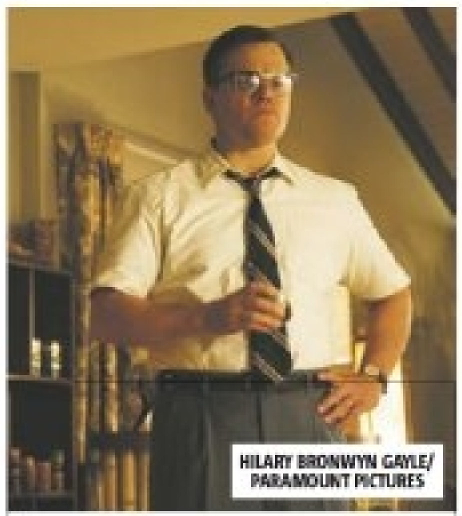
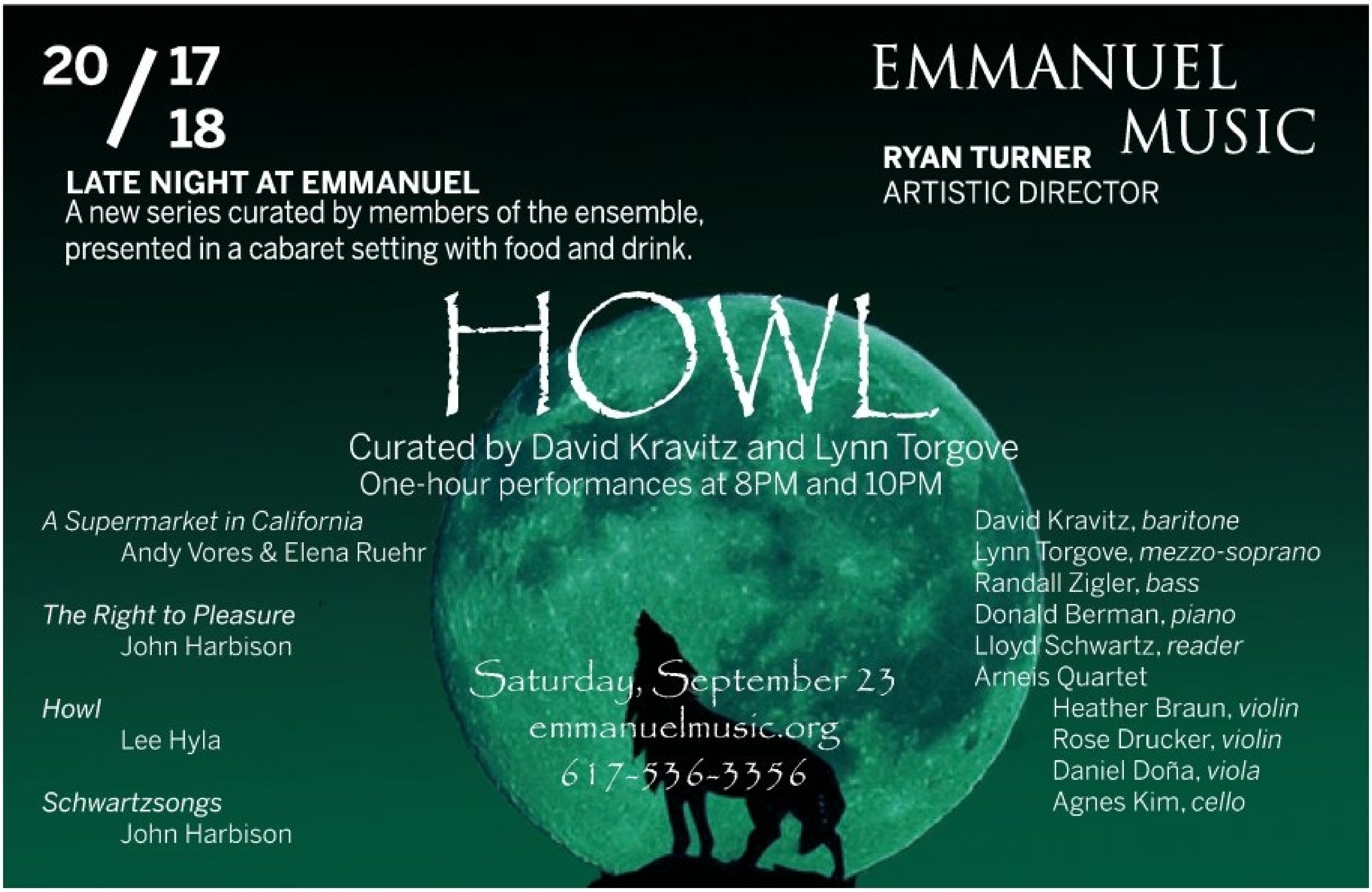

HILARY BRONWYN GAYLE/ PARAMOUNT PICTURES

"Suburbicon" – Oct. 27

In a mini-"Ocean's 11" reunion of sorts, Matt Damon once again teams up with George Clooney for the dark comedy-drama "Suburbicon." Based on a screenplay written by Clooney and the Coen brothers, the film centers on an idyllic, '50s suburban community that quickly turns violent. The flick also stars Julianne Moore and Oscar Isaac.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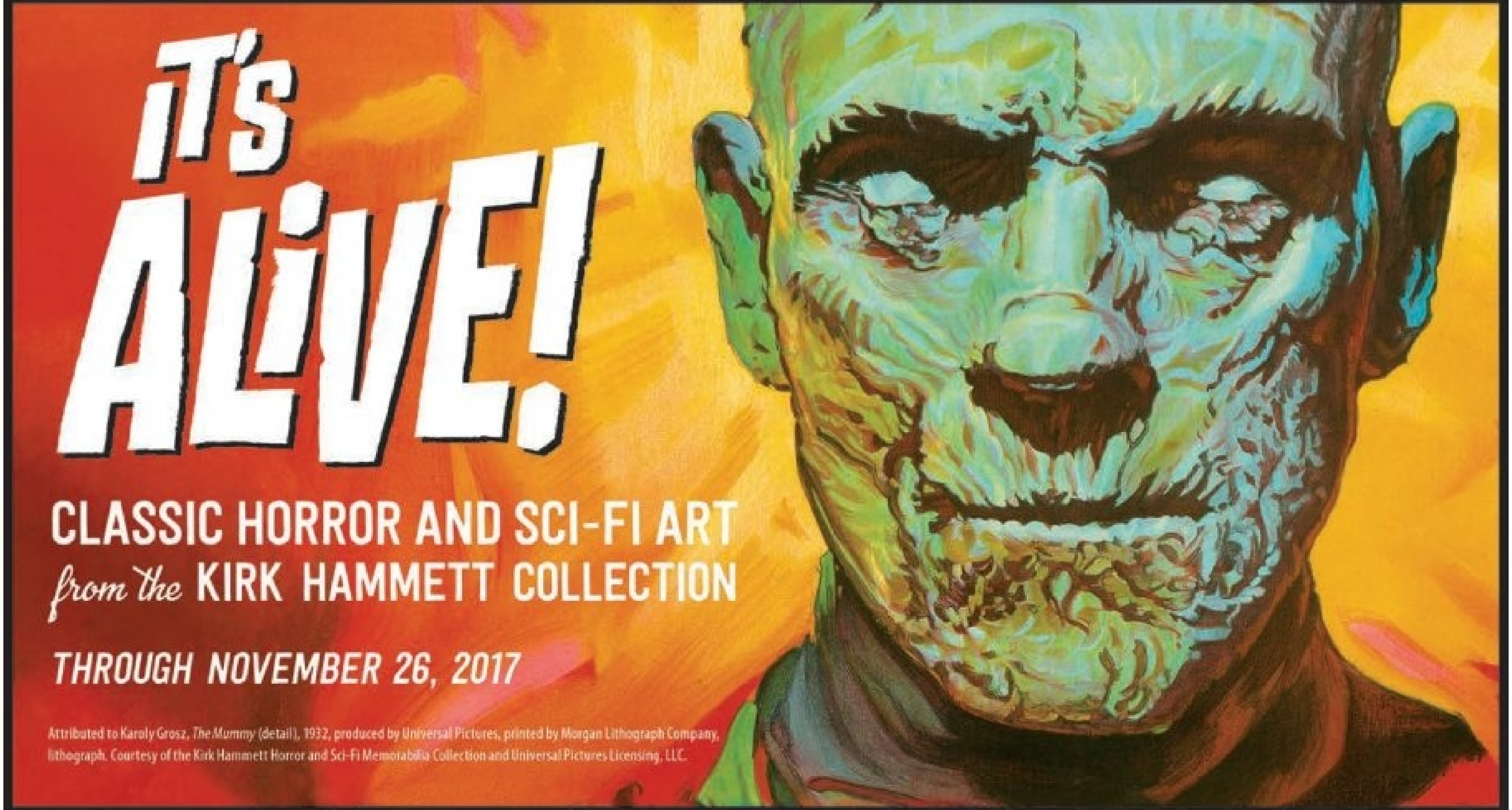

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Attributed to Karoly Grosz, *The Mummy* (detail), 1932, produced by Universal Pictures, printed by Morgan Lithograph Company, lithograph. Courtesy of the Kirk Hammett Horror and Sci-Fi Memorabilia Collection and Universal Pictures Licensing, LLC.

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Concord Museum celebrates 200 years of Henry David Thoreau

This year marked 200 years since the birth of the Henry David Thoreau.

A new exhibit on the Mass. author opens this fall.

LINDA LABAN
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Capping off a yearlong celebration of Henry David Thoreau's 200th birthday, the Concord Museum debuts its new exhibit, "The Ever New Self: Thoreau and His Journal," this fall.

A combination of the world's two largest collections featuring Thoreau artifacts and manuscripts, the venture is a joint exhibit between the Morgan Library & Museum in New York City and the Concord Museum. The later houses a variety of artifacts related to the famed Bay State writer, including the very desk where he wrote groundbreaking literature and his equally expounding journals.

Thoreau's ideas and immersion in the natural world is widely regarded as the birth of the modern conservation movement via his iconic "Walden," which espoused simple living and condemned development. His essays, such as "Civil Disobedience," promoting action against unjust laws, showcased ideas of social activism.

However, it's his journals that bring together the many avenues that sparked his keen intellect. Thoreau was an individualist, a Transcendentalist, a phenologist, an abolitionist, an essayist and an activist — simply, his lengthy journals bring to life one of America's greatest "modern day" thinkers.

See Thoreau's desk. ALL PHOTOS BY CONCORD MUSEUM

"Scholars have returned to these journals and keep doing so, even today," says David F. Wood, Concord Museum's curator and the author of "An Observant Eye: The Thoreau Collection at the Concord Museum." "This is the place to find all these separate Henrys. The journals help compartmentalize Henry David Thoreau, which is impossible in a way. He was always up to so many different things. But it helps us make sense of who he was and what he did."

One thing Thoreau wasn't, he wasn't a grandstander. The exhibit has both photos — there are only two — which Thoreau sat for during his short, but remarkable life. Contrary to the 21st century habit of endless selfies and countless social media posts on how we feel and what we achieve, he was not self-indulgent or trivial.

"He's not chatting about the weather and his feelings," says Wood. "It's frustrating in a way, you wish he would talk about how his day was going. One entry simply says, 'Walden published.' That's it."

Yet, Thoreau easily fits today's intellectual progressive ideals of preserving nature and social equality.

"He was an activist, but he doesn't write about it in his journal as something other than an idea," Woods adds. "But he didn't put ideas on a stage: He didn't preach."

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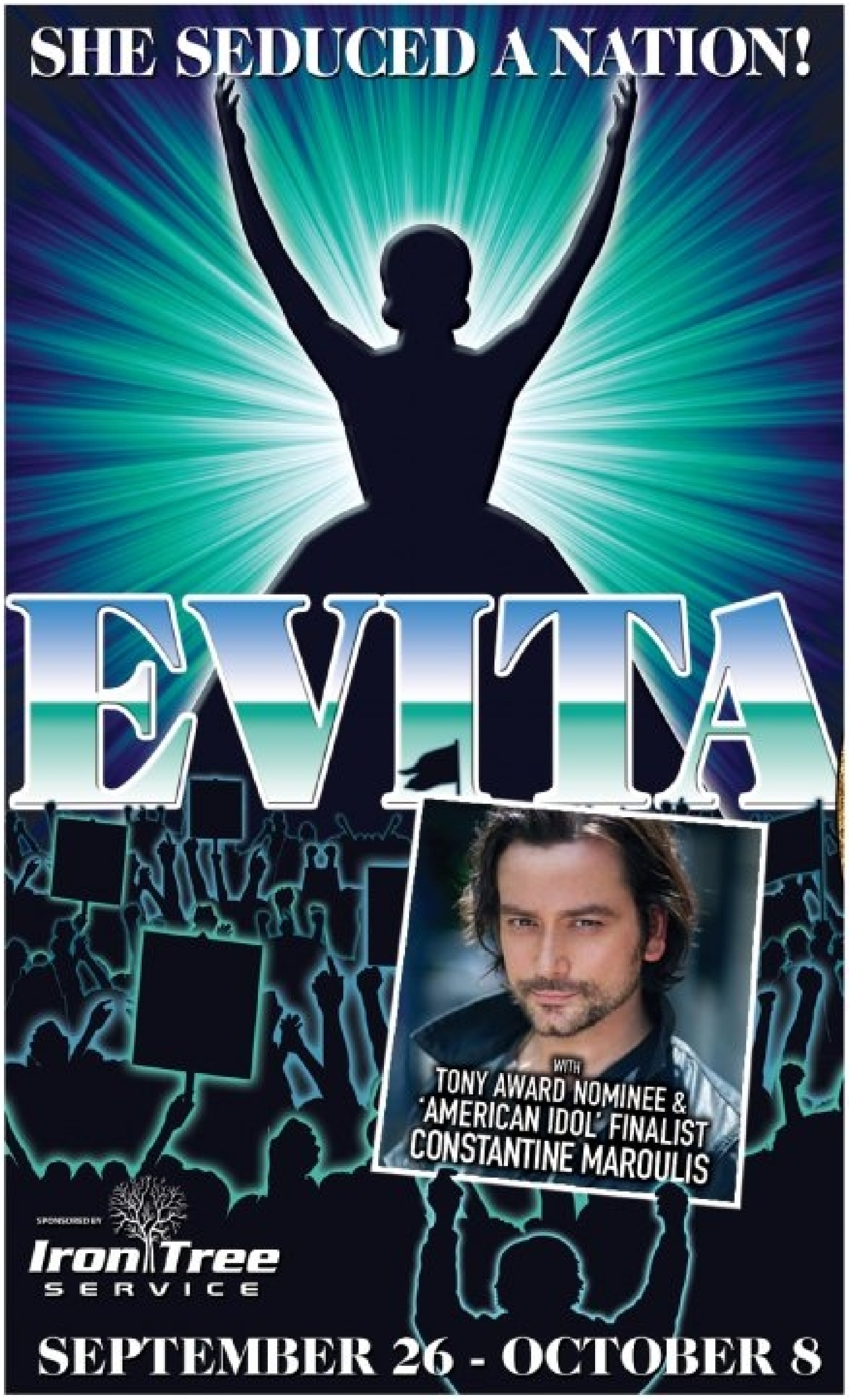
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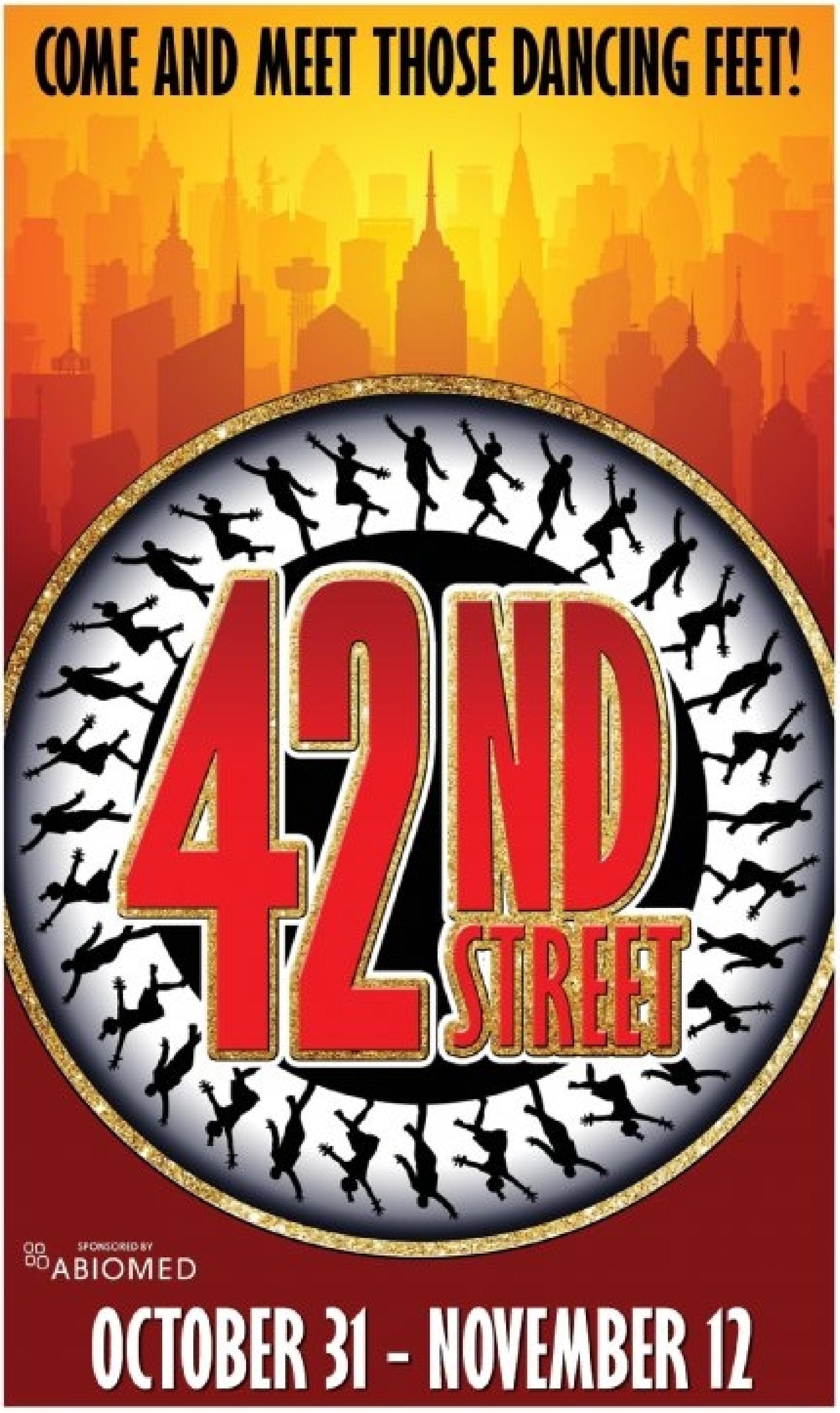
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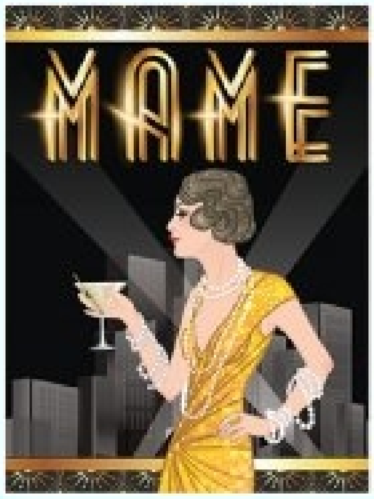

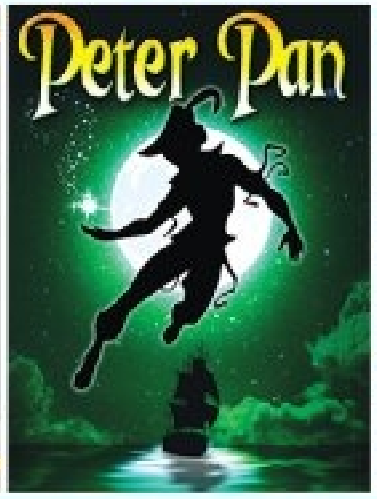

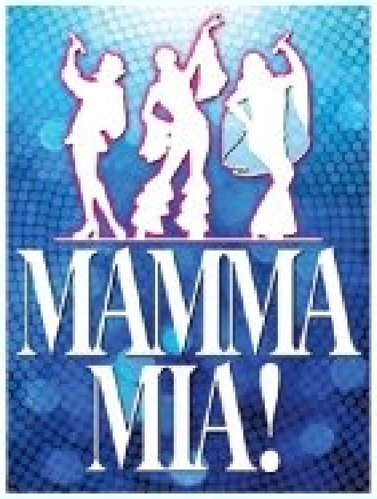

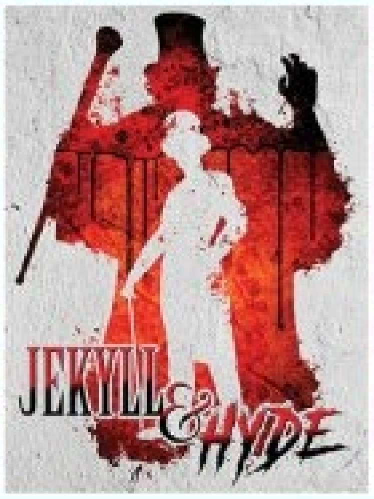
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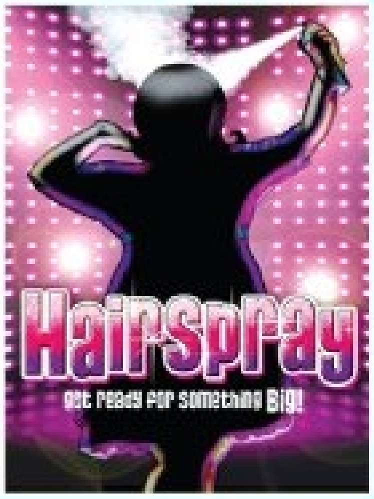
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BSO's Andris Nelsons on why conducting is a 'mystical profession'

The conductor and music director dishes on the orchestra's fall season.

LINDA LABAN
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It's the final week of the Boston Symphony Orchestra's annual summer engagement in the Berkshires, where conductor and music director Andris Nelsons leads the lauded troupe through the final two concerts of the 2017 summer season at Tanglewood.

Then, finally, he can take a vacation with his family before work begins once more, preparing for the BSO's fall through spring season at Symphony Hall.

The program launches with a grand opening concert, Sept. 22, introducing a yearlong celebration of American conductor and composer Leonard Bernstein's centennial. Nelsons tells Metro he counts Bernstein as a consummate conductor, a profession even he admits is a bit mysterious.

"People look at the conductor and wonder what is he doing? He's waving his hands; some jump up and down; others are more still," Nelsons says. "He stands in front of the orchestra, but the conductor doesn't produce any notes. It is a mystical profession and difficult to explain. The most important part of what I do is communicate."

He adds, "I communicate with the orchestra, and through them I communicate with the audience. Conducting is about communication."

Nelsons wants an all-inclusive communication and a free concert, Oct. 1, in Franklin Park is an open invitation to all. It's an effort to debunk ideas that classical music concerts are expensive (there are several discount season passes available for as little as $20), or confounding.

"There are no rules saying how you should listen," Nelsons urges. "Just close your eyes and open up your fantasy, and think about what it means to you."

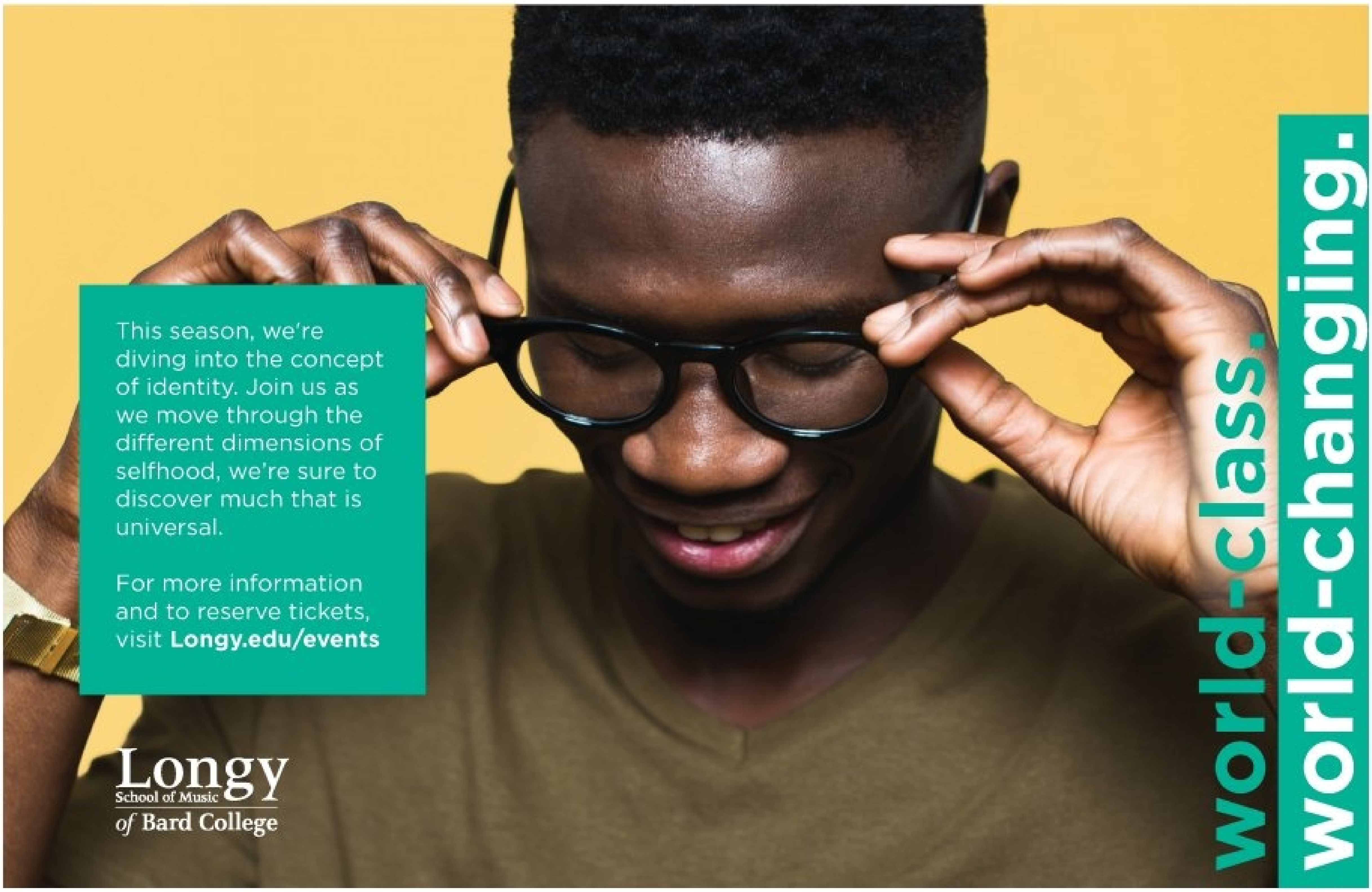
Nelsons is thrilled to have such events as Wagner's "Tristan and Isolde," but he won't single out any concert as a favorite he might be looking forward to.

"It's like food. You think, 'What do I feel like eating?' Same with music," he says. "Everyday we have different moods. If you feel lonely or question what life means, come to Mahler 'Symphony No. 1.' If you are feeling more analytical, choose Stravinskyor come for Shostakovich if you feel on the dark side, but want to have hope."

Simply, Nelsons feels music is a universal communication.

"Art and music keeps our emotional side alive and helps us stay human and not become too cruel or insensitive," Nelsons says. "Communicating this is a big mission."

The orchestra kicks off its new season on Sept. 22. MARCO BORGGREVE


This season, we're diving into the concept of identity. Join us as we move through the different dimensions of selfhood, we're sure to discover much that is universal.

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Meet Cambridge's unlikely hip-hop scholar

Rapper Millyz has enough bars to pass any exam.

BRENDAN MCGUIRK
@MetroBOS
letters@metro.us

Danny Ainge messed up Millyz's plans.

Before the Celtics bigwig traded Isaiah Thomas and Jae Crowder to the Cleveland Cavaliers for Kyrie Irving, the Cambridge-bred MC had made fans out of the pair of green teamers, and was eyeing ways to link with the two fan-favorites during the rollout of his upcoming album, "SPED: 2," a sequel to his 2015 mixtape due for release Sept. 19.

The connection with Thomas came via mutual friendship with rapper Jadakiss, with whom Millyz has a few tracks, including his newest single, "Back to the Money." Jada sent "IT" a recent Millyz freestyle, and according to the rapper, the diminutive scorer responded via text with a series of fire emojis, even popping up on his feed with some Instagram likes.

Millyz then crossed paths with Crowder at a summer club appearance, when the hard-nosed scrapper summoned the rising hip-hop star, whose song "Lessons" recently hit one million streams, to join him at his private table.

"Mind you, I'm a super-rabid fan. He had his arm over me and was just talking like, 'I support you, man. You're a superstar, bro,'" Millyz says. "I planned to have like, a real rap relationship with them dudes this year, but they're gone. I guess I've got to put Kyrie Irving onto my [stuff]."

It's been a whirlwind year for the rapper, born Myles Lockwood, with highlights that include talking his way onto a national TV appearance at the BET Cypher, a smash single in "Lessons" and reputation-cementing freestyle performances on the radio shows of Funkmaster Flex and Statik Selektah. Next, he will play a homecoming show along with Def Jam artist Dave East at Brighton Music Hall on Thursday, Sept. 21, to ring in his newest hits.

Millyz performs at Brighton Music Hall Sept. 21. SAM WILLIAMS

While fans can expect plenty of onstage love shown to Boston from the dexterous lyricist, attentive listeners will note that the Hub's sister city across the Charles River often gets the most shoutouts from Millyz, as he credits the area for incubating him as a hip-hop artist.

"Cambridge gave me everything," he says. "You ever saw the [multicultural] murals on the Middle East? That's really how Cambridge is supposed to look. That [stuff] inspired me. That's where I come from, that melting pot."

With "SPED 2," Millyz is reflecting back on the schooling that began in Cambridge, when being disruptive at a young age relegated him to classrooms with the other "trouble" students, who were labeled in need of "special education."

"It took me a long time to realize that, oh, I was bad in school and then they put me in a small class with no windows with the other 'bad' kids in school," he says. Careful to note that he does not blame the education system, he admits it was a challenge to be told he "was not normal" at an impressionable age, which he says contributed to an early life of crime that included three felony charges before turning 19.

"I was a bad kid, they had to put me somewhere. But it's just that you definitely don't want to put the bad kid with the rest of the bad kids and let him feed off each other's energy," he offers.

Throughout his new project, Millyz is looking to open up minds about the different ways people learn — lessons his upbringing taught him.

"That's what I'm saying, I'm taking it now and trying to make sped a positive thing. Sped is a derogatory word, let's not get it twisted," he says, explaining his philosophy on the different kinds of intelligence. "I feel like everybody in general — you have a special education, regardless of the actual 'education' system — whatever you've seen to get you to this point to make you think how you think."

He adds, "I'm trying to take that and flip it so that no kid can be ever called a sped again."

JAMIE KIRSCH
MUSIC DIRECTOR

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Lynn Eustis, soprano; Jacob Cooper, baritone

The world premiere of a new work commissioned by CpM! Andy Vores weaves together poetry by local writer Frederick Choi with nursery rhymes that feature odd situations, curious occurrences, and bad behavior, to explore how the puzzlements of childhood lead to finding a place and identity in the world. The music creates a unique sonic world by means of an electronic and environmental soundtrack and the use of looping pedals to create webs of sound by superimposing the singing of the chorus upon itself.
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Madeleine Shaw, mezzo-soprano;
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Considered by many the greatest oratorio by an Englishman as well as the most beautiful oratorio of the 20th century, *The Dream of Gerontius* sets to music a mystical poem about death and final judgment. In its first part, a dying man experiences his very last moments; later, the soul of the departed, aided by his guardian angel, prepares for that great moment, both inspiring and horrifying, when he will come into the presence of God to be judged. Elgar's music is large in scale and inspired by Wagner, but is completely in his own voice. It has deeply inspired listeners since its debut in 1900.

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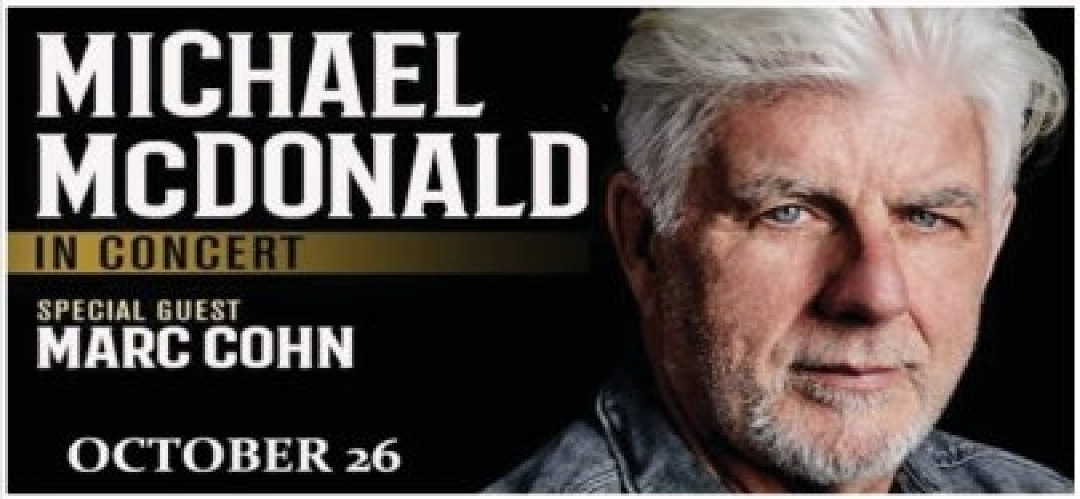
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December 8
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and the music of STYX
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10 Concerts you can’t miss in Boston this *fall*

Here are the hottest live music events coming to the city.

JACKIE KOLGRAF
@MetroBOS
letters@metro.us

As Boston welcomes in the fall months and cooler weather with open arms, the city also becomes home to some of the biggest acts in music. From double headlining shows from British pop sensation Ed Sheeran to a unique acoustic experience with rapper T-Pain, there’s an act to please everybody in the Hub this season.

1 Ed Sheeran

One of 2017’s biggest artists, the British crooner comes to Boston to perform his most recent album, “÷ “ (pronounced “divide”), on one of his 187 global tour dates. His lead single “Shape of You” achieved over 1 billion streams on Spotify.
Sept. 22-23, 7:30 p.m., TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, $39.50+, tdgarden.com

2 Katy Perry

Fresh off her feud with Taylor Swift, the newly reinvented Katy Perry takes up Boston’s last September weekend with her latest tour. The back-to-back nights will feature performances of the top singles off her most recent album, such as “Chained to the Rhythm” and “Swish Swish.”
Sept. 29-30, 7:30 p.m., TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, $50.50+, tdgarden.com

3 Harry Styles

On his first solo tour since leaving One Direction, Harry Styles will pack the 3,500-capacity theatre with loyal post-boyband fans before returning to Boston’s much larger TD Garden in 2018. “Sign of the Times,” the pop rock ballad and lead single off his self-titled album, debuted at number four on the Billboard Hot 100.
Sept. 30, 8 p.m., Boch Center Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., $59.50+, bochcenter.org

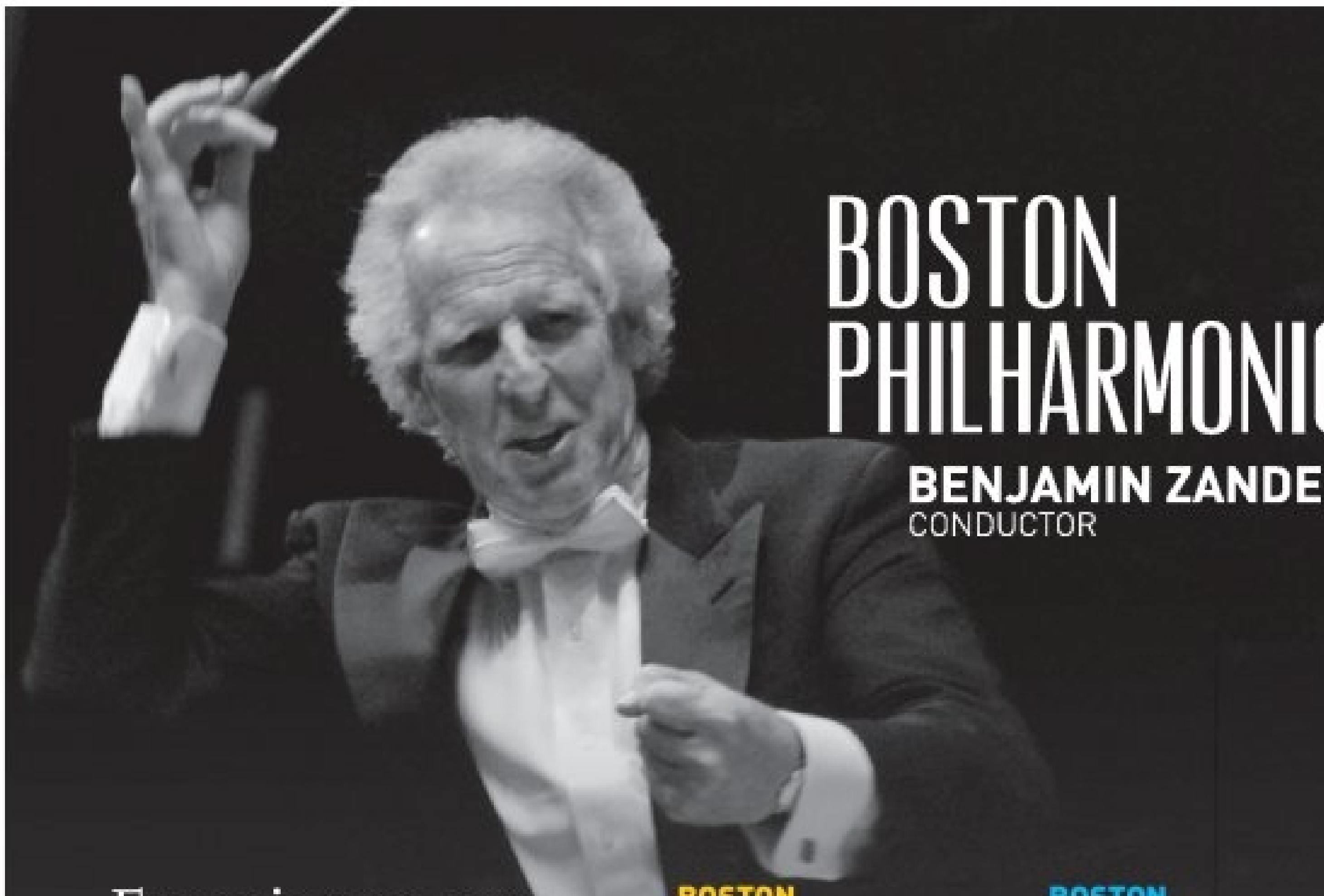
4 Kesha

After a long and public legal battle against her former record label and producer, Kesha returns to music with the emotional, political and feminist album “Rainbow.” Her first album in nearly half a decade, this intimate performance at the House of Blues isn’t to be missed.
Oct. 4, 7 p.m., House of Blues, 15 Lansdowne St., $43+, houseofblues.com/boston

5 Halsey

Catapulted to current fame levels by her 2016 collaboration with The Chainsmokers on their

Kesha



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BERLIOZ & SIBELIUS
NOVEMBER 9, 11, 12

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FEBRUARY 22, 24, 25

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Bruno Mars

T-Pain

Katy Perry
ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

track "Closer," Halsey comes to Boston with her Hopeless Fountain Kingdom World Tour. She was the first female artist of 2017 to debut at No. 1.
Oct. 6, 7 p.m., TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, $39.95-79.95, tdgarden.com

6 Bruno Mars

Over the past year, Bruno Mars has released three singles off his third studio album — "24K Magic," "That's What I Like" and most recently, "Versace on the Floor." The five-time Grammy Award winner is undoubtedly one of pop's most entertaining live performers of today.
Oct. 7-8, 8 p.m., TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, $39.75+, tdgarden.com

7 Zedd

Internationally known Russian-German DJ Zedd is the producer behind some of the biggest songs of the last few years, including "Stay" with Alessia Cara and "Break Free" with Ariana Grande. Boston is one of only 12 dates for Zedd's Echo Tour.
Oct. 17-18, 7 p.m., House of Blues Boston, 15 Lansdowne St., $31+, houseofblues.com/boston

8 Brand New

Brand New shocked their fans recently by dropping their fifth LP two months early — their first album in eight years. It debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 and is possibly the band's final album and tour, so be sure to catch them on their stop here.
Oct. 20, 8 p.m., Boch Center Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., $39.50+, bochcenter.org

9 Guns N' Roses

Axl Rose, Slash and Duff McKagan return together in Boston for their Not in This Lifetime Tour. Already having been on the road for nearly a year and a half, GNR brings with them a fully loaded set list of 30 songs with three hours of stage time.
Oct. 22, 7:30 p.m., TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, $59+, tdgarden.com

10 T-Pain

Three years ago, T-Pain ("Buy U A Drank," "Can't Believe It") shocked the world with an acoustic performance on NPR's Tiny Desk series. It was such a departure from his heavily autotuned radio singles that it went viral, and now T-Pain is embarking on an acoustic tour inspired by the Tiny Desk success.
Oct. 25, 8:00 p.m., The Sinclair, 52 Church St., $30+, sinclaircambridge.com

Ed Sheeran

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Jimmy Tingle "Where Are We Now?"
Saturday, September 16 at 8pm

Lexington Comedy Blowout
Ft. Steve Sweeney, Jimmy Dunn, & more!
Friday, October 13 at 8pm

The Temptations
Sunday, October 15 at 7pm

Pink Martini
Thursday, October 19 at 7:30pm

Heather McDonald
Friday, October 20 at 8pm

The Fab Four
Sunday, October 22 at 7pm

Arlo Guthrie
Sunday, November 12 at 7pm

Nick Di Paolo
Friday, November 17 at 8pm

An Evening with Peter Sagal
Saturday, November 25 at 7:30pm

Gin Blossoms: Celebrate The 25th
Anniversary of New Miserable Experience
Saturday, December 2 at 8pm

Vienna Boys Choir Holiday Celebration
Friday, December 8 at 7:30pm

Judy Collins
Friday, December 15 at 8pm

Lenny Clarke & Friends
Saturday, January 20 at 8pm

An Afternoon with Garrison Keillor
Sunday, May 20 at 3pm

Plymouth Memorial Hall
83 Court St, Plymouth, MA
MemorialHall.com

Gordon Lightfoot In Concert:
The Legend Lives On...
Thursday, September 21 at 8pm

Robert Cray
Friday, October 6 at 8pm

Barnstable H.S. Performing Arts Center
744 West Main St, Hyannis, MA
CapeCodShows.com

Herman's Hermits starring Peter Noone,
The Grass Roots, and Terry Sylvester
of The Hollies
Sunday, October 22 at 7pm

The Larcom Performing Arts Theatre
13 Wallis St, Beverly, MA
TheLarcom.org

Paul D'Angelo
2 Shows!
Sunday, December 31 at 7:30pm & 9:45pm

Lenny Clarke
Saturday, January 27 at 8pm

Durgin Hall at UMass Lowell
35 Wilder St, Lowell, MA
PhilVassar.com

Phil Vassar
Friday, November 10 at 8pm

Sandwich H.S. Auditorium
365 Quaker Meeting House Rd, Sandwich, MA
CapeCodShows.com

Vienna Boys Choir Holiday Celebration
Tuesday, December 12 at 7:30pm

Alton Brown's new tour mixes food with music, comedy and much more. ALTON BROWN LIVE

Alton Brown explains what makes New England cuisine great

The Food Network star brings his live tour to town this fall.

MATT JUUL
@RunTheJuuls
matthew.juul@metro.us

Local foodies are in for a treat this fall as Alton Brown is coming to New England with his "Eat Your Science" live tour.

Expect to see a lot more than just a few cracked eggs when the Food Network star stops at Foxwoods on Oct. 27 and the Wang Theatre in Boston on Oct. 28. The culinary variety show will include everything from food demonstrations and live music to comedy and multimedia skits, all while giving fans a taste of the science behind cooking.

We caught up with Brown to chat about the tour and what makes the New England food scene great.

How did you come up with the idea to mix food with music, comedy and all the other stuff in your show?
Television variety shows. I was addicted. That was one of the major prime-time forms of entertainment in the '70s when I was growing up. From the "Flip Wilson Show" to Sonny & Cher, all these shows that were skit comedy mixed in with musical acts, magic acts, whatever it was. A few years ago, I just got

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the idea to do a culinary variety show.

Fans will get a bit of a science lesson during your live tour, too.
Everything in food has some kind of scientific foundation. The food demos in this show definitely highlight some of the scientific aspect of cuisine and how food works. Those are just story points for the show. It's not a show about science, but it is certainly more laced with science than any of my other touring shows.

Let Alton Brown blind you with science. SARAH DEHEER

Which city's food scene has surprised you the most on this tour?
I am constantly surprised. Every town in America now has something going on food-wise. Omaha, Nebraska, Des Moines, Iowa, Bakersfield, California — food has had such a renaissance in these secondary and tertiary cities in the United States. You think you have to go to New York, Los Angeles or Chicago, but no, there's great food happening kind of everywhere now.

Occasionally you'll roll into a town where people will say, "Well, there's Applebee's and that's about it." And you're like, "Well, it hasn't happened here yet." But that is certainly the exception now. My favorite restaurant in the United States, practically, is in Des Moines. It's a pizza joint built on the bones of an old Chinese takeout place with a tiki bar built into it. Stuff just happens.

What makes New England cuisine so unique?
It's two things that are equally balanced. No. 1, great ingredients, whether it's produce or seafood. New England always has such high quality ingredients. The other thing is a deep respect for tradition, whether it's coming from some kind of family heritage or community heritage. New England has always made sure that it's food history and food traditions are respected and kept vital and authentic.

Even though there's always a respect for tradition, there's always innovation going on. All of that has to work together to keep a food scene fresh. But in the end, it's hard to argue with maple syrup and lobster. It just is.

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Executive Chef
Check out Gene's Chinese Flatbread Cafe.
GETTY IMAGES

Alton Brown's favorite Boston restaurant

"The No. 1 place that I love in Boston – and it's tiny and I would imagine a lot of folks that live there don't even know about it – is Gene's Chinese Flatbread Cafe," Brown says. "They do an authentic, Xi'an-style hand-pulled noodles."

The TV personality and food fanatic says that the Downtown Crossing restaurant's "slippery" and "spicy" noodles are "freaking amazing" and make for the perfect meal to munch on in the winter time.

"There's a lot of great food in Boston, but that was the discovery that I made last time that fan's turned me onto that was really, really surprising and remarkable," Brown says. "To be honest, I haven't found anything else like it, really, in the United States."

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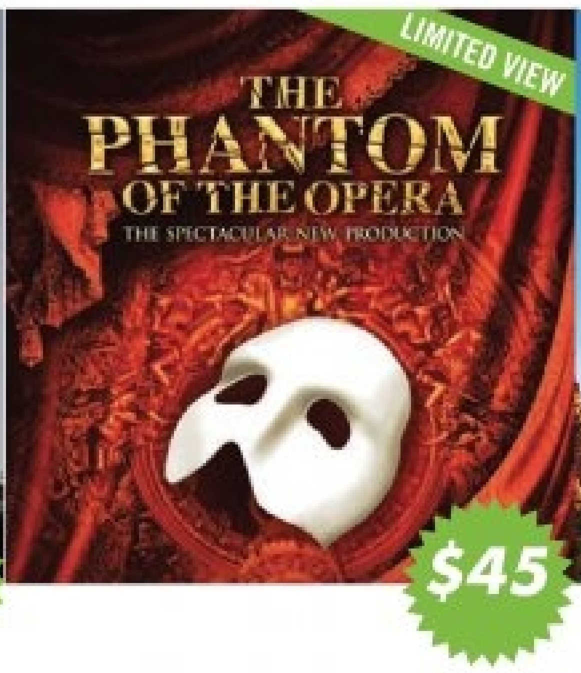

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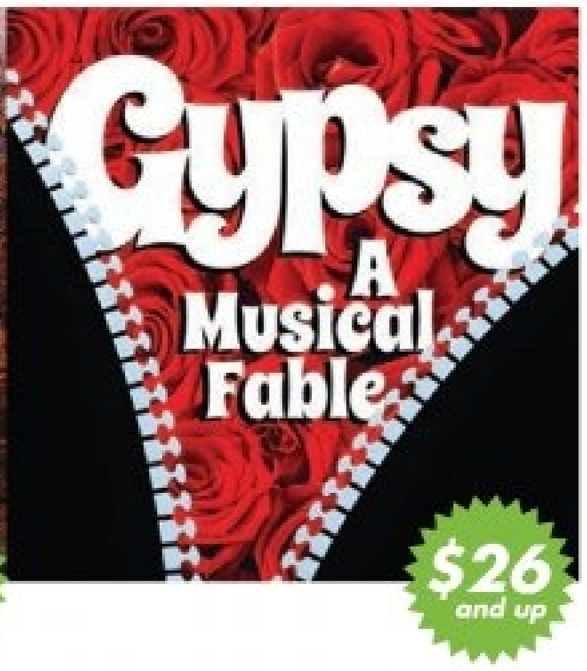

ARTSBOSTON.ORG/BOSTIX

Your guide to the 9th annual Boston

Get ready, bookworms.

LINDA LABAN
@MetroBOS
letters@metro.us

If you go:

Oct. 27-28, Copley Square, Boston, bostonbookfest.org

No one reads books anymore, right? While we've been hearing that for years now, the 9th annual Boston Book Festival, which takes over Copley Square in October, clearly proves otherwise.

"Reading a book is a solitary pursuit," says founder Deborah Porter. "One of the nicest things about it is the atmosphere, this coming together of people who are part of your tribe. All these people who read books in one place creates this wonderful sense of community."

The theme for this year's festival is "Where We Find Ourselves," and that can be taken literally or metaphorically. The event, which launches with a reading on Friday night at Old South Church, is free. Porter admits that holding a free festival isn't a good business model, but she didn't start the festival for financial gain.

"Nine years ago, Boston was one of the few big cities that didn't have a major book festival," says Porter. "I thought the 'Athens of America' should have one."

Check out a few, can't-miss highlights from this year's event, courtesy of Porter.

The Book Revue: "The Friday night kick-off event is usually a one person keynote affair. This year we've opened it up to have several authors presenting. Among those, Leland Melvin, who was an NFL player and an astronaut serving on the Space Station, will read his poetry."

Thriller: "Dennis Lehane lives in L.A. now, but he's returning to talk about his new book on our thriller panel. It's about a journalist who has an on-air mental breakdown, and then his marriage implodes. It's very much about the internal, psychological violence. It's new territory, I think, for him."

Murder: "'Fact of a Body: A Murder and a Memoir' is by local writer Alexandria Marzano-Lesnevich. She was a law student assigned to a death penalty case, and the man was a pedophile. In the process of investigating this murder she draws on her own experience

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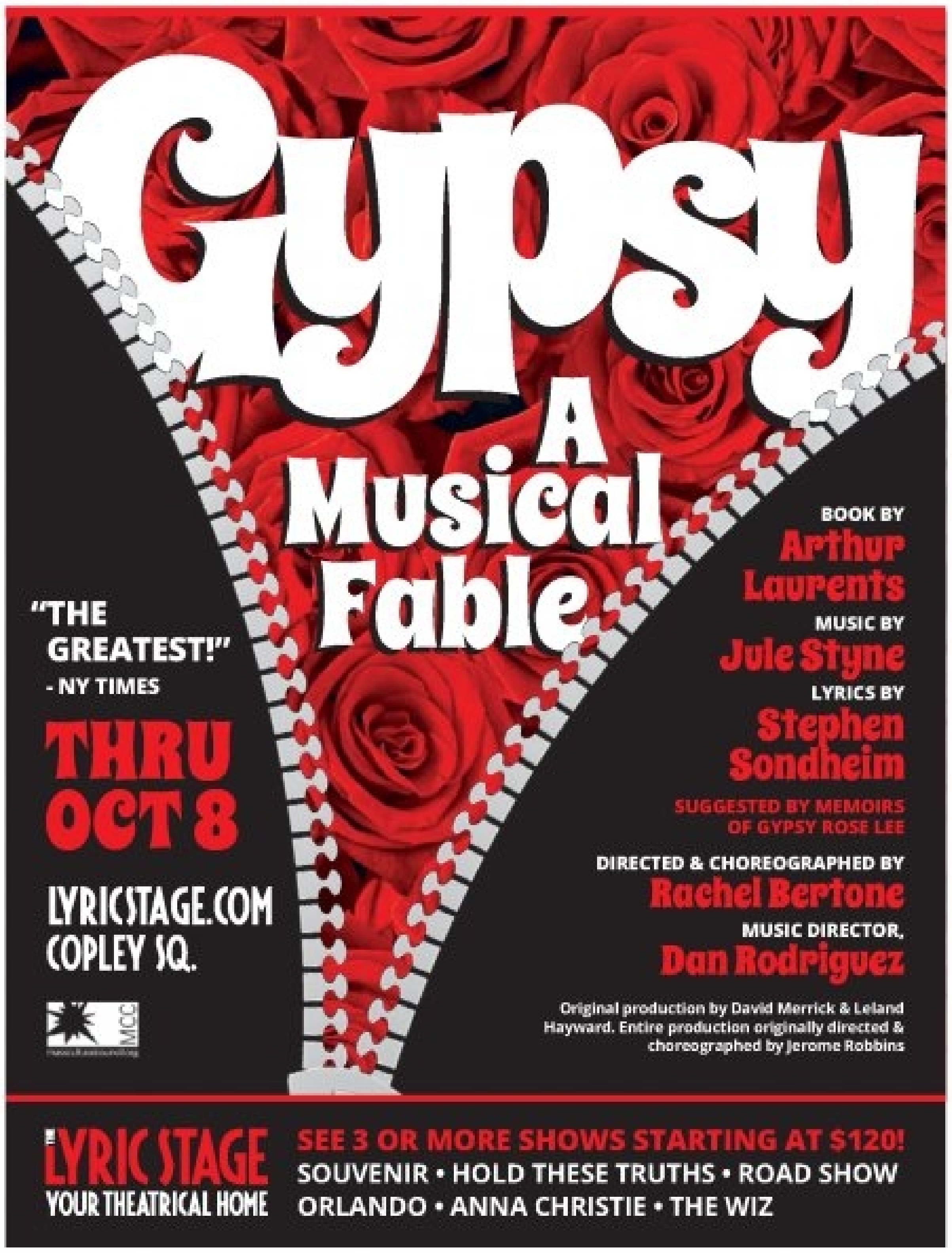

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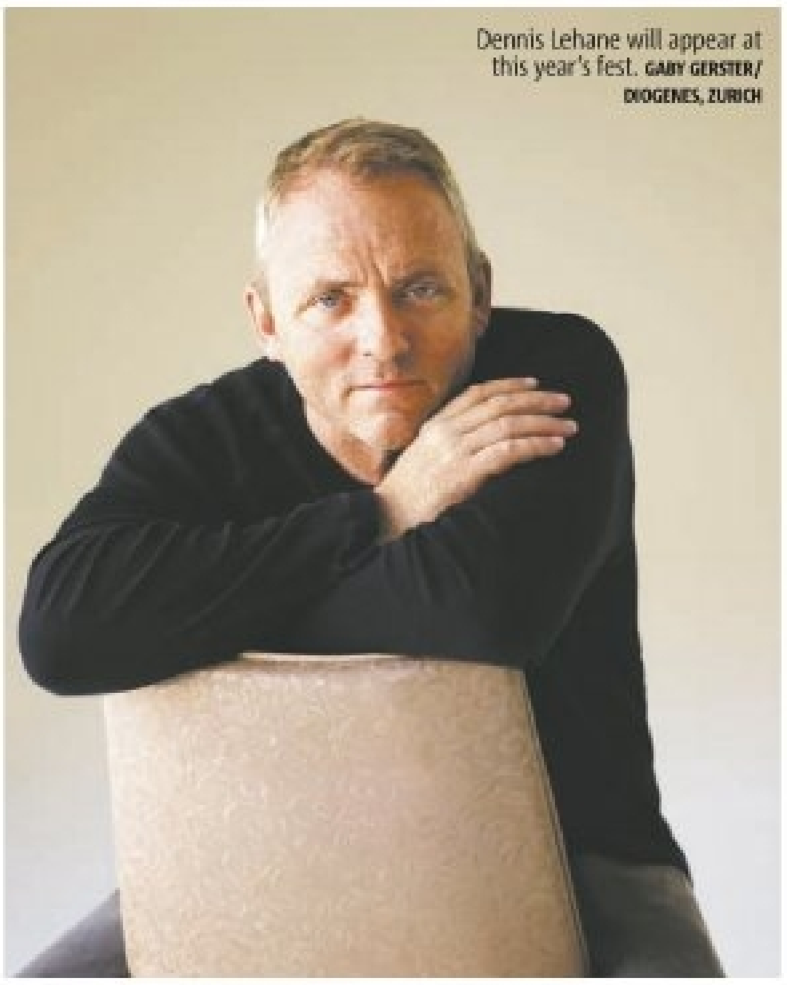

Dennis Lehane will appear at this year's fest. GABY GERSTER/DIOGENES, ZURICH

of sexual abuse by her grandfather. It is a complicated, but fascinating book."

Sex: "It's almost a second theme for the festival, but we have three authors looking at sexuality, and how things are changing. The issue of transgender people, for instance, and now it's recognized, how many people does that affect? Campus rape and how that's being dealt with is another topic."

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10.20	**RUSTED ROOT**
10.20	**DORI FREEMAN** IN THE HAYMARKET LOUNGE
10.21	AN INTIMATE EVENING W/ **RICKIE LEE JONES**
10.22	**ALBERT CUMMINGS**
10.24	**QUINN SULLIVAN**
10.25	**LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III** W/ LUCY WAINWRIGHT ROCHE
10.26–27	**ART GARFUNKEL** IN CLOSE-UP
10.28–29	**KRISTIN HERSH & TANYA DONELLY**
10.30	**CRAIG FINN & THE UPTOWN CONTROLLERS** PLUS JOHN K. SAMSON
11.1	**RENAISSANCE** A SYMPHONIC JOURNEY
11.2	**COWBOY JUNKIES**
11.2	**BLUE WATER HIGHWAY BAND** IN THE HAYMARKET LOUNGE
11.3-4	**SHAWN COLVIN & HER BAND** W/ LARRY CAMPBELL AND TERESA WILLIAMS
11.5	**HOLLY NEAR** W/ TAMMY HALL & JAN MARTINELLI (EARLY SHOW)
11.5	**THE WEEPIES** COMPLETELY ACOUSTIC & ALONE (TWO SHOWS)
11.7	**TALIB KWELI**
11.8	**LOS LONELY BOYS** W/ LISA MORALES
11.9	**LEFTOVER SALMON** (TWO SHOWS)
11.10-12	**MARIZA**
11.11	**ERIN HARPE AND THE DELTA SWINGERS** IN THE HAYMARKET LOUNGE
11.12	**ANTHONY GERACI & THE HIPNOTICS** IN THE HAYMARKET LOUNGE
11/12	**DAN ZANES' LEAD BELLY PROJECT**
11.13	**DAVID CROSBY & FRIENDS** SKY TRAILS TOUR 2017
11.14	**PAUL THORN** HAMMER & NAIL 20TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR
11.15	**LLOYD COLE**
11.16–17	**MARC BROUSSARD**
11.18	**IAN HUNTER & THE RANT BAND**
11.19	**ROBERT PINSKY'S POEMJAZZ** (EARLY SHOW)
11.19	**POSITIVELY BOB** **WILLIE NILE SINGS BOB DYLAN**
11.21	**DOYLE BRAMHALL II**
11.24	**AZTEC TWO-STEP**
11.25	AN EVENING W/ **MELISSA FERRICK**
11.26	**KINDRED THE FAMILY SOUL**
11.28-29	**RUFUS WAINWRIGHT** W/ MELISSA FERRICK
12.1	**SUSAN WERNER**
12.2	**LOS GOUTOS** GOOD TIME AMERICANA MUSIC IN THE HAYMARKET LOUNGE
12.3	**KRIS ALLEN** SOMETHIN' ABOUT CHRISTMAS TOUR 2017
12.7	**JOE HENRY** THRUM TOUR W/ SPECIAL GUEST ROSE COUSINS
12.12	**DAMIEN ESCOBAR**
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9.28	**JOHN POPPER** W/ KATRINA WOOLVERTON **AT LAUGH BOSTON**
9.29	**DAN WILSON** **AT THE RED ROOM @ CAFE 939**
9.29	**THE CHURCH** W/ THE HELIO SEQUENCE **AT THE CENTER FOR ARTS NATICK**
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American Airlines
The BOXER

Boston Ballet opens fall season with 'Obsidian Tear'

It's the North American premiere of the Royal Ballet production.

LINDA LABAN
@MetroBOS
letters@metro.us

There are at least two reasons, and probably many more, why Boston Ballet artistic director Mikko Nissinen is thrilled about the ballet's production of "Obsidian Tear."

The Hub's premiere dancers will perform the piece, crafted by Royal Ballet choreographer Wayne McGregor, at the company's fall season opener in November.

"Mr. McGregor is one of the top ten living choreographers in the world," says Nissinen. "We are thrilled to be working with him again," he adds, referring to the Boston Ballet's 2013 production of McGregor's "Chroma."

Clearly, there is some mutual admiration, because the Boston Ballet "got the call," Nissinen says, offering the opportunity of premiering "Obsidian Tear" in North America. This modern, abstract ballet has an all-male cast and opened to rave reviews at the Royal Ballet's home in London's Covent Garden last year.

"I was there on opening night and loved it," says Nissinen. "It's a delicious performance for the eye. It is a very powerful piece."

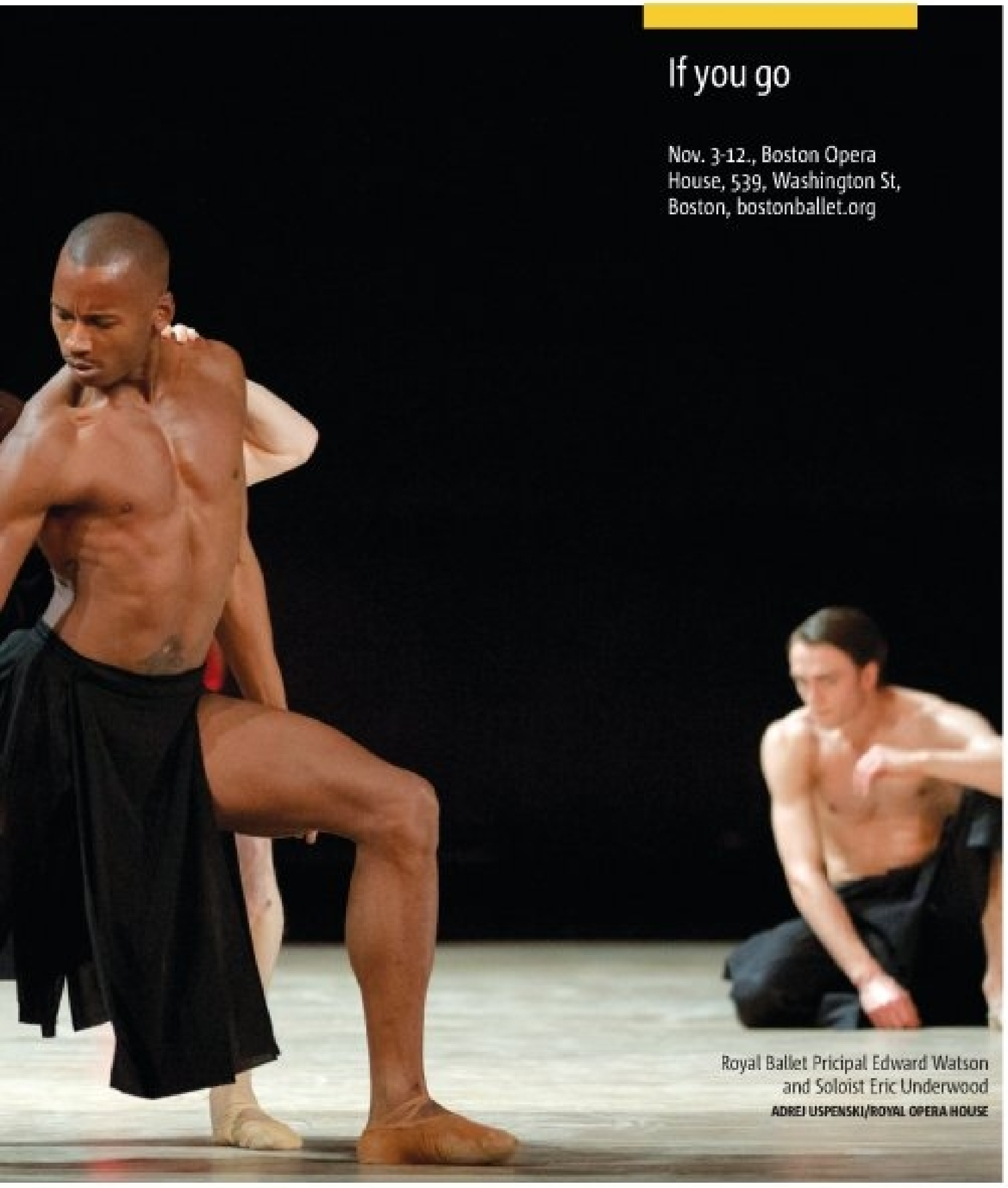
The storyline is quite topical and profound. Basically, it's about the end of our planet (as we know it). If the title has you pondering the pronunciation of the second word, well, it works either way, because if we tear this planet apart we will surely shed a tear.

"Mr. McGregor wants the title to be taken either way you want," says Nissinen. "The piece is about the pressure and tension that eventually tears the earth open."

Some might say the all-male cast is telling as (mostly) men rule the countries and corporations that carry on with power mongering and money making regardless of the consequences on lives, and on the planet. Certainly, a testosterone heavy cast forms a powerful dark energy.

"Basically, the ballet is pushing the boundaries of what the human body can do. Wayne really wanted to explore the male physicality," explains Nissinen, who will work with McGregor on the Boston production.

Besides the visual power of the art unfolding on stage and the



If you go

Nov. 3-12., Boston Opera House, 539, Washington St, Boston, bostonballet.org

Royal Ballet Pricipal Edward Watson and Soloist Eric Underwood
ADREJ USPENSKI/ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

tragic tale told therein, for Nissinen, there is a deeply personal connection to "Obsidian Tear." Its musical score is taken from two works by fellow Finnish native Esa-Pekka Solonen. Moreover, the program has three parts and includes the world premiere of Boston Ballet's resident choreographer (and fellow Finn) Jorma Elo's ballet, which is set to Finnish composer Jean Sibelius's "Symphony No. 5," and closes the evening with a full company performance.

"This is an evening of premieres," says Nissinen. "Then we added an orchestral piece, 'Finlandia.' It showcases the work of two amazing Finnish composers, and the 'Fifth Symphony' is also special. The score ebbs and flows and really has such an emotional range."

"Of course," he adds, "In addition to the spectacular Finnish score works for the program, I also realized Finland celebrates 100 years of independence this December. Independence is not something to be taken lightly."

Boston Ballet artistic director Mikko Nissinen. GETTY IMAGES

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Ms. Pat on stand-up comedy in the

> "That White House has been lit like a frat party ever since he got there."

MATT JUUL
@MetroBOS
letters@metro.us

It hasn't been an easy road to the stage for Patricia Williams, better known in comedy circles as Ms. Pat, but she's finally ready to start a new chapter in her life.

From teen pregnancies and family issues to drug deals and violent shootouts, Ms. Pat had to overcome a lot of adversity while growing up in her rough Atlanta neighborhood. Despite her struggles, which she chronicles in her new memoir "Rabbit," Ms. Pat has slowly become one of comedy's most promising rising stars.

Although she's not exactly a Patriots fan, Ms. Pat couldn't be more excited to return to the Hub for this year's Boston Comedy Festival.

"I love Boston until you guys beat us in the Super Bowl," Ms. Pat says. "I'm a Falcons fan so that broke my heart. I like Boston. It's a great city, other than playing my Falcons."

We chatted with Ms. Pat about her new book, working on a sitcom with Lee Daniels and her thoughts on comedy in the age of Donald Trump.

Ms. Pat is heading back to the Hub for this year's Boston Comedy Festival. GETTY IMAGES

Was it tough for you to open up about your rough past in your autobiography, "Rabbit?"
I learned a lot writing this book, about myself. I didn't realize I was protecting people that were hurting me the most. Writing this book with co-writer Jeannine Amber, she was able to tell me, "Hey, you got to stop protecting the people who hurt you." I found myself protecting my mom and my first kids' father, like, "Don't write that about them. I don't want people to think bad about them." And she's like, "Are you crazy?" It made me aware of that and allowed me to start healing.

Do you feel like you can start a new chapter of your life now that you've finally put your past behind you?
I do. I feel like that's a chapter in my life I can finally close now.

Looking ahead, it must be exciting to work with Lee Daniels on

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age of Trump

your upcoming sitcom project.
I have to tell people all the time, this is like co-workers. You don't get excited about seeing your co-workers, do you? [Laughs] So you don't let people's fame go to your head. I tell people, "I'm working." I know these people are superfamous and so many people want to meet them, but I'm working. These are co-workers. That's how I stay focus. I don't say, "Lee Daniels, give me an autograph!" But TV is so slow. You can have three babies compared to trying to develop one show.

Every comedian seems to be weighing in on Donald Trump and politics these days. Do you feel pressured to talk about these issues onstage?
Of course, you have to be. You know how you see some comics go, "If you voted for Trump, you're racist." I don't believe that. I just say how I feel about certain things that Trump is doing. I don't ever try to make my audience feel bad about their choice. I don't think everybody is racist who voted for Trump, but I will say this: Ya'll should be ashamed.

He blows my mind every day. I've never in my life followed politics the way I follow him. He's trying to get rid of 800,000 people who came across the border. I can't put my head around that. How do you get rid of 800,000 people?

See Ms. Pat in Somerville. NBC

There seems to be a new controversy all the time.
Every single day there's something new. That White House has been lit like a frat party ever since he got there. There's a new subject every day, honey. Trump's like that nosy b— in the ghetto who keeps everything started. Eventually, everybody gets together and beats her ass.

If you go:

Sept. 22, 9:30 p.m., the Rockwell, 255 Elm St., Somerville, $20, bostoncomedyfest.com

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The top comedy shows coming to town this fall

These super stand-up stars are bringing the laughs to Boston.

MATT JUUL
@RunTheJuuls
matthew.juul@metro.us

Boston is widely regarded as one of the best comedy towns in the country, so it's no surprise that a slew of stand-up stars want to perform in the Hub this fall. Here are the top comedy shows you have to check out this season.

Boston Comedy Festival

Expect to see a few of your favorite comics when the annual fest returns this month. "30 Rock" star Judah Friedlander kicks things off with his set on opening night Sept. 20. The festivities will also feature performances by Ms. Pat, Tony Hinchcliffe and more.

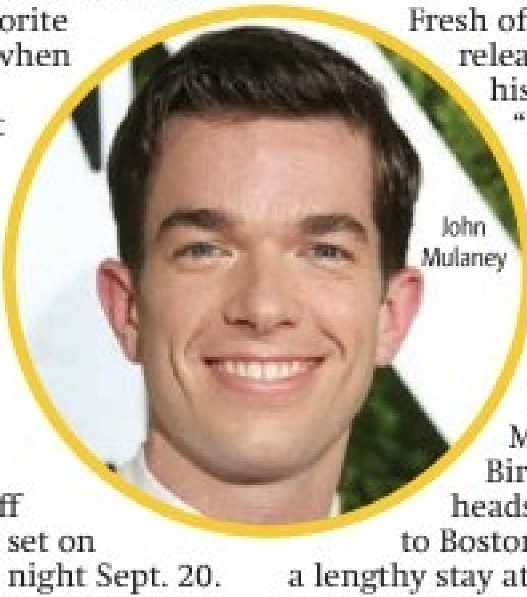
Sept. 20-24, various locations, bostoncomedyfest.com

Jen Kirkman

The Needham native makes her Boston return in September with her first solo gig at the Wilbur. In addition to bringing her "All New Material, Girl" tour to town, Kirkman is also offering special VIP upgrades where fans can meet her before the show plus score some sweet swag.

Sept. 20, 7:30 p.m., Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston, thewilbur.com

Mike Birbiglia


John Mulaney

Fresh off the release of his flick "Don't Think Twice" last year, fellow Bay State star Mike Birbiglia heads back to Boston for a lengthy stay at the Wilbur. The Shrewsbury native takes over the theater for five straight nights in October.

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Jimmy Fallon joins Denis Leary at Comics Come Home this year.
ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Chris Rock

Oct. 4-8, Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston, thewilbur.com

Ilana Glazer and Phoebe Robinson

"Broad City" and "2 Dope Queens" stars Ilana Galzer and Phoebe Robinson are teaming up for their "Yaaas Queen Yaaas" comedy tour. The fan-favorite comics already sold out their Sunday night show, but there's still a chance to catch them in action at their Saturday night performance.
Nov. 11-12, Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston, thewilbur.com

John Mulaney

"Too Much Tuna" star John Mulaney will be spending a lot of time in Boston this fall. In addition to his sold-out show at the Wilbur, the Emmy Award-winning comedian will perform at Symphony Hall in November.
Nov. 14 and 17, Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, bso.org

Dana Gould

Local legend Dana Gould has inspired a generation of Bay State comics with his standup work over the years. The Hopedale native will be back in town in November for three nights at Laugh Boston.
Nov. 16-18, Laugh Boston, 425 Summer St., Boston, laughboston.com

Comics Come Home

Denis Leary and his funny friends will once again take over the TD Garden for this year's Comics Come Home event, which raises funds for the Cam Neely Foundation for Cancer Care. This year's impressive lineup includes Jimmy Fallon, Craig Ferguson, Jim Gaffigan, Jeff Ross and more.
Nov. 18, 8 p.m. TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, Boston, tdgarden.com

Chris Rock

A comedy superstar who needs no introduction, Chris Rock will finally return to the Hub this fall. Check out his "Total Blackout" world tour when it stops at the Wang Theatre for a pair of no-doubt sell-out nights in November.
Nov. 25-26, Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston, bochcenter.org

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‘Broad City’ foreshadows Trump’s presidency

The season-four premiere, “Sliding Doors,” is a parable about how naivete can lead to disaster.

KATE MOONEY
@yatinbrooklyn
kate.mooney@metro.us

The broads are back! In the season four “Broad City” premiere, “Sliding Doors,” which aired last night, we go back to the day Abbi and Ilana first met, and alternate between two versions of how things could have gone — with drastically different outcomes. Just like that Gwyneth Paltrow ’90s flick, our heroines’ fates hinge upon their making the train (in this case, the subway) before the doors close. Our girls even rock different hairstyles to help us distinguish between the storylines, versions, just like Gwyneth did: In one, Abbi loses her ponytail to “the NYC snipper,” and must make do with a spiky shag, a la David Bowie in “Labyrinth”; Ilana wears hers either straightened or naturally curly.

The question isn’t whether or not the two NYU undergrads circa 2011 become besties; it’s whether or not they’ll make it through the day. While the storytelling device is a fun experiment, as “Broad City” is wont to do — and c’mon, who hasn’t imagined how their own “Sliding Doors” would play out — there’s a deeper message here. The episode is a sort-of parable about how blind optimism and naivete can lead to disaster. It’s a loose foreshadowing of Trump’s presidency.

The parallel days each begin with the girls meeting underground, when Ilana lends Abbi a Metrocard swipe. In Version A, we’ll call it, the two make the train, but go their separate ways, each enduring extremely trying days, before reuniting again by chance and commiserating. In Version B, the two miss the train, but spend a magical first day together where almost nothing goes wrong (suspiciously). And then there’s this exchange:

Abbi: “I’m so relieved we have a hot black guy as president.”
Ilana: “I feel like we’re finally moving forward.”
Abbi: “And it’s just the beginning. Never backward, only forward.”
Ilana: “Next is a woman!”

At the end of their nearly perfect NYC day, they get hit by a bus with an ad for Donald Trump’s “The Apprentice,” featuring his mug and the tagline “American is Watching. You’re fired!”

Version A is more “Broad City.” Part of why we love Abbi and Ilana is because they know how to take New York City lemons and squeeze ’em into lemonade. Sure, they can be delusional and immature, but they’re also scrappy and unspoiled and that’s how they make it, leading semi-charmed kind of lives in the Big Shitty. In A, Ilana gets kicked in the face by a “Showtime!”-esque subway performer, fired

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In "Sliding Doors," we get the origin story of our favorite besties, and glimpse what could have gone horribly wrong. CARA HOWE

from her waitressing job at the Grey Dog, ostracized by her roommates, kicked out of class for bombing a presentation and gets her clothes ripped off of her by a passing cyclist. Abbi gets her ponytail snipped, gets sexually harassed by a guy selling toy water guns and comes home to the terror of Bevers for the first time (OK, Ilana actually had a much worse day). But the two meet again, smoke a bowl, write their names in wet cement, bond over the injustice of not being able to order a bacon egg and cheese sandwich after 11 a.m. at the bodega (is this true?), and, most crucially, live.

In episodes ahead, we'll return to the present day and see how Abbi and Ilana are coping after Trump's election, though we never hear his name — it's bleeped out throughout the season. Spoiler: not well. In "Witches," we learn that Ilana hasn't been able to orgasm since the election. But she reclaims her "cum queen" status by harnessing some witchy woman power. All hope is not lost, so long as you stick with the broads.

"Broad City" airs Wednesdays at 10:30 EDT on Comedy Central.

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Directed by Steve Maler
Monday, November 13, 7:00 P.M.
Carling-Sorenson Theater, Babson College, Wellesley
Brecht's series of 18 interconnected playlets describe what life was like in German households in the 1930s as the Nazis came to power. The reading features Tony Shalhoub and Brooke Adams. Presented by Commonwealth Shakespeare Company.
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‘American Assassin’ helped Dylan O’Brien push past trauma

Dylan O’Brien stars as rogue CIA recruit Mitch Rapp. LIONSGATE

The actor talks about his accident, anxiety and authenticity.

GREGORY WAKEMAN
@MetroNewYork
gregory.wakeman@metro.us

Dylan O’Brien probably shouldn’t have made “American Assassin.” Just six months before “Assassin” was slated to film, he was severely injured in an on-set accident for “Maze Runner: The Death Cure” — an accident that required him to have extensive surgery.

Although the 26-year-old has kept mum about the full extent of his injuries, it’s clear from his comments that they made an impact on him mentally and physically. Especially as he prepared for his role as Mitch Rapp, a vengeful vigilante trained by the CIA to fight terrorists. So much so that O’Brien admits that he never thought he would make it through production on “American Assassin.”

“It was the hardest thing I have ever done,” O’Brien recalls over the phone. “I was coming off the hardest thing I had ever gone through, and the scariest thing I had ever experienced. And then, to be honest, I was coming off months of mental anxiety from the accident. Things were out of my control [because of] the way a brain reacts to trauma.”

O’Brien remembers having weekly panic attacks where he would feel “completely overwhelmed about everything” that he had to handle during the shoot. “It felt too soon,” he says. “I was still going through too much personally, and at the same time I was having to turn up to the gym everyday, and there were multiple times where I had [panic] attacks about doing this. I just totally wanted to run off the ledge.”

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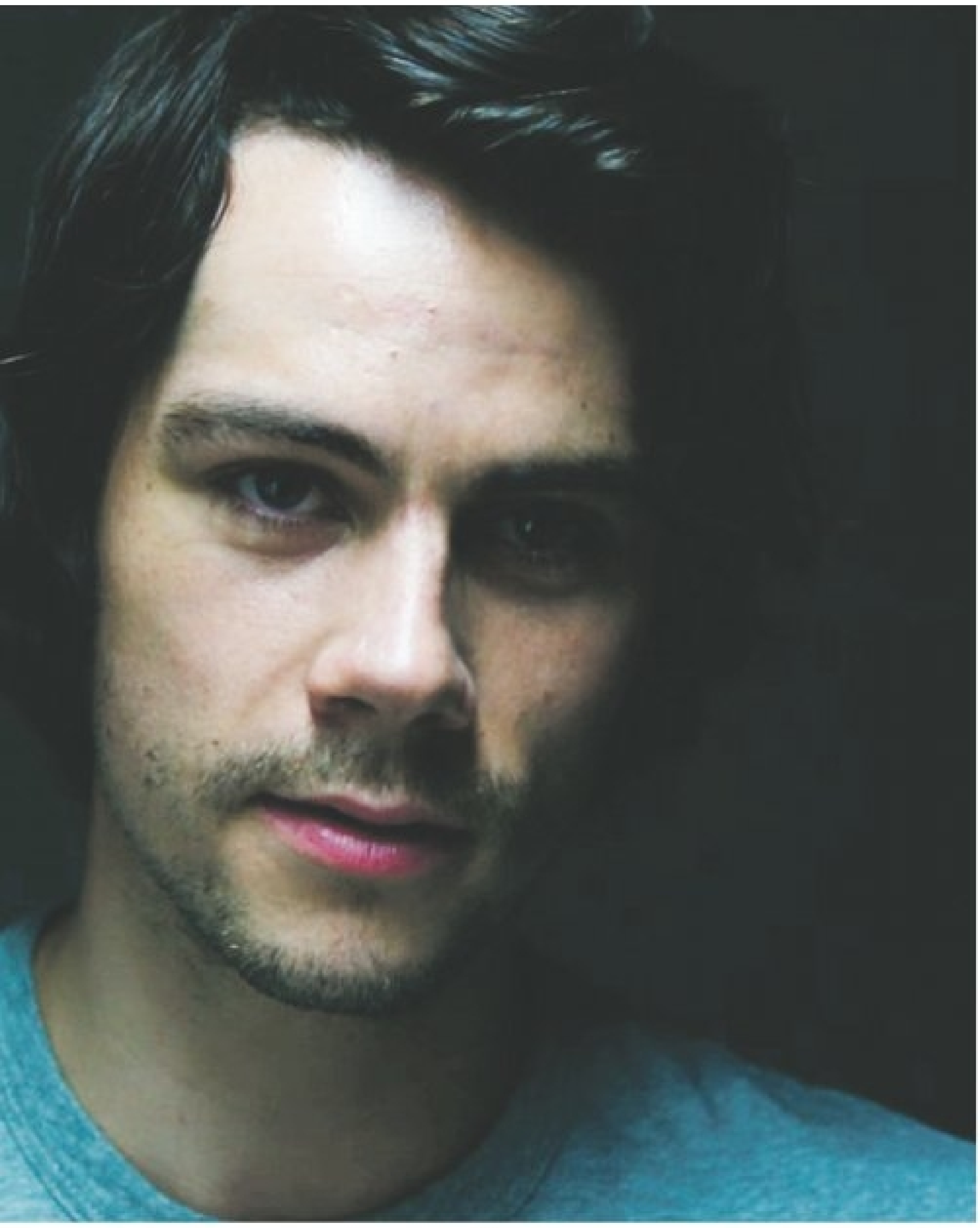

GETTY

Despite the daily pain and trauma of returning to a movie set, O'Brien is clearly proud he overcame such a huge obstacle. "I just couldn't be happier that I pushed through, and made this happen for myself," he says. "Because it ended up being something I'm really proud of, and something that was really hopeful and instrumental in getting me back on my feet as an actor and as a person."

After everything he's gone through, O'Brien didn't just want to sign up for more of the same, career wise. And with "American Assassin," he saw something that avoided making the same old predictable sort of film.

"I wanted to make sure it was fused with honesty and authenticity, and didn't have an agenda," he says. "I think, ultimately, what I really like with the film, and the message it puts across when it comes to terrorism, is that it can come from absolutely anywhere. And ultimately that's what we're dealing with in the world right now."

After everything O'Brien has gone through, he's primed and ready to deal with anything else the world throws at him. You'll get to see him in action when "American Assassin" is released Sept. 15.

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Don’t get fooled again

After the disastrous NYC Pizza Festival, here’s how to tell if an event posted on Facebook or Eventbrite is legit.

EVA KIS
@thisiskis
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Though the first-ever Brunchcon went on as advertized, poor organization ruined the experience for many attendees. BRANDON HARDIN

Living in the age of fake news means always having your guard up to check that what you’re reading isn’t The Onion or Fox News. But what about knowing when an event will be good?

New York saw its second high-profile event of the year go bust last weekend. The New York City Pizza Festival promised to be a grand day of tastings, music and games, but amounted to little more than standing in a Brooklyn parking lot drinking warm wine and eating slivers of pizza served up by three or so vendors.

In the spring, another new event, BrunchCon, did go on as advertised but fell victim to crowding and organizational problems that spoiled it for most attendees. Not to mention the infamous Ja Rule-Kendall Jenner music fiasco that was Fyre Festival, which left people stranded on an island in the Bahamas.

There’s of course the trend of gleefully fake (Linkin Park performing at the Lincoln Park Zoo, anyone?) Facebook events that flared up last summer. But the New York City Pizza Festival wasn’t a joke — though whether or not it ultimately rises to the level of a “scam” as some are claiming is now up to the State Attorney’s Office.

With tickets to popular events getting snapped up almost immediately, you don’t want to miss out, but you also don’t want to pay for an event that’s going to be a disappointment.

Save your cash and stress with these tips on how to spot a legitimate event on Facebook and Eventbrite:

1. You’re on your own

When it comes to online event listings, it’s more or less the Wild West out there.

Anyone can create an Eventbrite listing or Facebook Event, which costs them nothing. Facebook used to have a team of editors who vetted its Events to highlight legitimate happenings, but they’ve long been disbanded.

Ticket vendors like Eventbrite also allow anyone to list an event, since they make a profit on the sale of each ticket. The company is reviewing the Pizza Festival, according to spokeswoman Amanda Livingood. “This may include issuing refunds to attendees on behalf of organizers, removing events, or in the most extreme cases: closing accounts and prohibiting access,” she says.

Not exactly “satisfaction guaranteed.” So, to amend an old saying, get excited but verify.

2. TBA is never good enough

The most telling sign that the Pizza Festival would be a bust was the lack of a vendor list. Legitimate food events should be touting their participating restaurants — after all, they’re doing it for the exposure. This also lets you cross-check the participants’ social media accounts to see if they’re promoting the event, which they should be.

3. Call the venue

Yes, we all hate making phone calls, but this is a super easy and quick way to verify that an event is taking place. Not everyone updates their websites as often as they should, and venues don’t post every event they hold on social media, so picking up the phone is the quickest and best way to make

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Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Empty tents dotted the Brooklyn parking lot where the New York City Pizza Festival should've been taking place last weekend. MICHAEL REDMOND, FACEBOOK

sure you're not wasting your time.

4. Know your organizer

Check out the person or group hosting the event and make sure they have a legitimate website that's been updated recently. Ideally they've held events before, but even if it's their first time, a good way to tell whether they know what they're doing is by checking their social channels. They should be engaging with possible attendees by answering questions, linking to news stories or interviews about it, creating their own content to promote the event, etc.

5. Is it in the news?

Newspapers, magazines and television stations go through all of the steps above before deciding to publicize an event. If there's no additional information about an event being turned up through a Google search, chances are it's not legit. We try to help you not waste time by doing some of the legwork.

6. Wait to get a ticket

Really jazzed about an event but aren't sure if it's fake? If you're willing to eat the cost of getting there and some lost time, hold out on buying your tickets until you arrive. It's easy to see whether things are going well even from outside, and many events specifically reserve a block of tickets to be sold at the door.

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Munch on buffalo blowfish tails at this Boston sushi restaurant

It's a new twist on gameday food.

MATT JUUL
@RunTheJuuls
matthew.juul@metro.us

Gameday food just got an interesting makeover at this popular Boston sushi restaurant.

Back Bay hotspot Uni recently unveiled its newest addition to the restaurant's dinner menu: buffalo blowfish tails. This reimagining of buffalo chicken fingers comes courtesy of Uni chef Tony Messina, a big Patriots fan who wanted to give foodies a twist on the appetizer just in time for the return of football season.

"I don't love traditional game food. It's not super imaginative and it always hits the same notes — heavy, spicy and saucy, with the goal of soaking up alcohol," Messina says.

"This dish is very much on par with those types of food. It's rich, spicy, satisfying and pairs well with beer, but it's also unlike anything else that you've eaten."

Messina created the blowfish tails dish by marinating the meat in buttermilk and Sapporo beer. The fish is also breaded using a mixture of Special K and Frosted Flakes cereal.

Served with buffalo sauce and blue cheese, the blowfish tails at Uni cost $15 per order.

While some types of blowfish, also known as pufferfish, can be deadly to eat if it they are not cooked properly, guests who try the buffalo dish at Uni won't have to worry about that, as the Boston sushi restaurant thankfully doesn't use the poisonous version of the fish.

"Blowfish is considered a 'trash fish,' and

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If you go

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it's rare for me to be able to cook with that type of underutilized fish at UNI, so this was a great opportunity to do so," says Messina. "The crushed cereal crust added a unique crunch element. Frying cereal makes a dish really crunchy beyond the traditional chicken wing texture, and the result was exactly what I hoped for."

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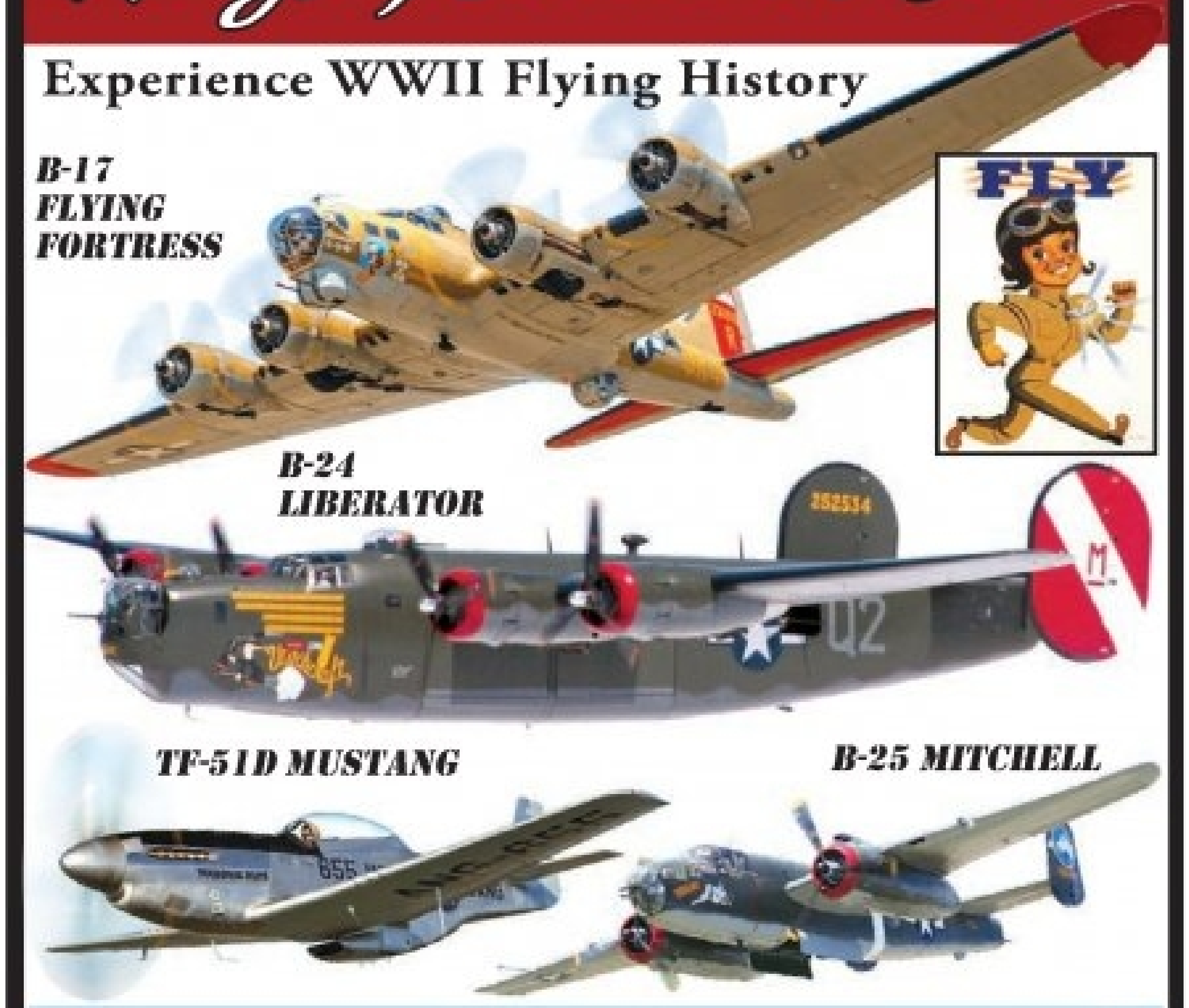

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GUY AROCH

Arcade Fire

Since their 2004 debut "Funeral," intellectual, indie rock band the Arcade Fire have been lauded by the tastemakers for their dramatic music and trenchant social critique, so it's weird that some critics are crabby about their latest record, "Everything Now." Some are saying the band's warnings about social media are played out, we think those people are just ashamed of their Twitter addictions. **Sept. 15, 7:30 p.m., TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, Boston, $22-$271, ticketmaster.com**

STUDENT LIFE

CollegeFest

Welcome to Boston, freshman! Now that you've settled into your classes—dropped the hard-looking ones and any that start before noon—what to DO? This fair is a good start, with a bunch of different companies hurling coupons and swag at you—need a water bottle? T-shirt for laundry day? Done. There's also live music and Fenway Park photo ops! **Sept. 16, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Fenway Park, Gate C, 4 Yawkey Way, Boston, free with college ID, collegefest.com**

CHARITY EVENTS

3rd Annual Fall Kick Off Fundraiser

Marathon Bombing survivor Heather Abbott started her eponymous foundation to help survivors of traumatic injuries like hers get the prostheses they need to live more normal lives. The Heather Abbott Foundation takes over the Barking Crab once again for their annual fundraiser this Saturday, with a performance from Sean Rivers and, of course, plenty of food and drink. **Sept. 16, 2 p.m.-6 p.m., The Barking Crab, 88 Sleeper St., Boston, $50, heatherabbottfoundation.org**

An Evening with Champions

This fundraiser for the Jimmy Fund, hosted by Olympians and Harvard grads Emily Hughes and Paul Wylie, features more than a dozen world-class figure skaters, including Polina Edmunds, Angela Wang and Shotaro Omori. Molly Malone, a17-year-old skater who was once a patient at the Dana-Faber Cancer Institute, for which the Jimmy Fund raises money, will also perform a special routine. **Sept. 15-16, Bright Hockey Center, 65 N. Harvard St., Allston, $10-$200, aneveningofchampions.com**

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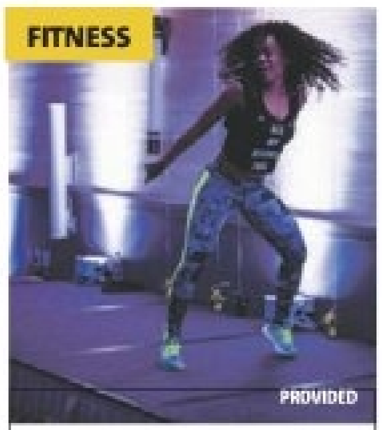

PROVIDED

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Trillfit present what they claim is the first-ever Hip Hop Fitness Festival. In addition to workouts including a three mile run, a sculpt session, cardio dancing, boxing and yoga, there'll also be DJs, food trucks, lawn games, a wellness market and a meditation session. You may have so much fun exercising, it'll take the work out of "workout." Clever, huh? **Sept. 16, 9 a.m., University Park Commons, 65 Sidney St., Cambridge, $20, trillfest.splashthat.com**

has given this classic Andrew Lloyd Webber musical a facelift—though the Phantom, of course, remains hideous. "Phantom" debuted in the '80s in London and New York, and it continues to play in both cities to this day. **Through Oct. 1, Boston Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston, $40-$150, boston.broadway.com**

Merrily We Roll Along

Huntington Theater has brought director Maria Freidman's celebrated London production of Stephen Sodheim's "Merrily We Roll Along" to Boston. It tells the story of Franklin Shepard, who leaves being his successful career as a Broadway composer to become a Hollywood producer. The play moves backwards through his life over two decades, peeling back the layers of his development. **Through Oct. 15, Huntington Avenue Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston, $20-$99, huntingtontheatre.org**

COMEDY

Andrew Dice Clay

Comedian Andrew Clay Silverstein became an arena-filling superstar in the late '80s with his crude New Yorker character the Diceman—a shtick that Nebraskan comedic Dan Whitney would later lift, with a redneck twist, to create Larry the Cable Guy. Would the Diceman cry foul? Maybe, but he'd probably rather just keep reciting his brilliantly stupid X-rated nursey rhymes. **Sept. 16, 9:45 p.m., Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston, $55, thewilbur.com**

FESTIVALS

Boston Freedom Rally

"Boston Freedom Rally" might sound like another right wing "free speech" protest, but this is actually a three-day gathering to support fully legalized cannabis—the east coast's largest, dating back 27 years. Method Man and Redman are the musical headliners, with nine other supporting acts. There will also be vendors, speakers and (of course) food. **Sept. 15-17, Boston Common, 84 Beacon St., Boston, free, masscan.org/rally**

ART

Somerville Toy Camera Festival

The Nave Gallery presents their fifth annual showcase of lo-fi photography made on cameras like the Holga, whose cheap construction leads to unintentionally weird and beautiful effects. That's what makes these pics so special: they are all, to some extent, happy accidents. This year's collection is bigger than ever, taking up the Nave Gallery, the Nave Gallery Annex and the Washington Street Gallery. **Through Sept. 30, multiple locations, Somerville, free, somervilletoycamera.org**

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Amazon execs reportedly pushing for new headquarters to be in Boston

Though Amazon has yet to announce any shortlist, several higher-ups told Bloomberg they want the company's second headquarters in Boston. **KRISTIN TOUSSAINT**

Since online-book-store-turned-internet-retail-giant Amazon announced that it was looking to establish a second headquarters, many have wondered what city would be graced with the company — and the thousands of jobs that come with it. Though the company itself hasn't revealed a short list publically, some top execs at Amazon.com Inc. have reportedly been vying for Boston as the home for the new headquarters.

"Several Amazon.com Inc. senior executives advocate putting a second headquarters in Boston, according to a person briefed on the matter," Bloomberg reported this week.

Boston is being considered, Bloomberg reports, because of its close location to Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, because Logan Airport can provide nonstop flights to Seattle (where the company's first headquarters are located) and Washington, D.C. (home to the U.S. Public Policy team and members of the Amazon Web Services Worldwide Public Sector team).

Boston is also appealing because of its "lower cost of living than many other big cities," the source, who requested to be anonymous, told Bloomberg.

Boston isn't a completely out-of-left-field pick. The New York Times recently published an analysis ranking potential HQ2-worthy cities and Boston made it to the top four.

Denver ultimately won out, according to the Times, because Boston might simply not have enough physical space available for the company.

Boston Mayor Marty Walsh had previously said that he didn't want Boston to get into a "bidding war" with another city trying to attract Amazon. That doesn't mean he wants Boston completely out of the running, though.

"Amazon is a big opportunity that Boston has to review," Walsh said in a statement. "If Amazon wants an East Coast headquarters, I don't see any city in America better than Boston, Massachusetts. There are a lot more discussions, but I think Boston has to be part of that dialogue."

As for Amazon, the company is keeping its digital lips sealed. In tweets on Tuesday, Amazon denied Bloomberg's exclusive report.

"Bloomberg is incorrect — there are no front-runners at this point," the company tweeted. "We're just getting started and every city is on equal playing field."

Amazon added that the company is "energized by the response from cities" across North America who have already reached out to express interest about being considered for the second headquarters.

The new headquarters would bring a $5 billion investment and 50,000 new jobs over the next two decades to whichever city gets the gig.

amazon fulfillment
main entry

A group of job applicants starts a tour as Amazon holds a job fair at its fulfillment center in Fall River, Massachusetts, on Aug. 2, 2017. GETTY IMAGES

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Boston Freedom Rally 2017: when, where and the lineup

Here's what you need to know to get your smoke on at this weekend's Freedom Rally being held on Boston Common. **MORGAN ROUSSEAU**

The 28th annual Boston Freedom Rally will take place this weekend at the Boston Common, drawing thousands of revelers for three days of music, local vendors, good vibes and of course, marijuana.

Sometimes referred to as "Hempfest," organizers say it's the largest annual gathering of pro-pot supporters on the East Coast, and the second largest festival of its kind held anywhere in the world. Hundreds of speakers are expected, as well as special guests, panels and competition giveaways.

The Boston Freedom Rally music lineup is as follows:

Friday: Roots of Creation, The House on Cliff, Stone Giant, The Rupert Selection, DJ Lotusound, See This World, Genie Santiago, Darius Heywood, Anturazh, Briggs Rosewood, DJ Kid Hype.

Saturday: Marlon Asher, Mighty Mystic, Mendo Dope, Joe Sambo, Pony Boy, Myster DL & Son B, Headdshotts, Real One, Viva La Hop & Busy Bee, Morah, Blayk, Taren Tate, Resonate, Over the Bridge, Phokus, Rabbit Hole, Peter Piffen, Johnny Haze, Hunter.

Sunday: Baby Bash/ Paul Wall, The Elovaters, DJ Slim, Crooked Coast, Torn Shorts, Prospect Hill, Stiz Grimey, DJ Lotusound, One Short Breath, Hemp Fashion Show, Busy Bee, Natalie Joly, Van Martin, Yookaroo, Roberto Gell, The Red Barron, Sour.

The rally is organized by the Massachusetts Cannabis Reform Coalition (MassCANN), the state affiliate of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) also known as MassCann/ NORML.

If you go

The festival will kick off at 3 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 15., and will run until 8 p.m. that night. The celebration continues on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. and on Sunday, Sept. 17 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

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Marijuana enthusiasts celebrate during a previous Boston Hempfest. ALL PHOTOS METRO

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Boston Hempfest organizers say it is the largest such gathering on the East Coast.

Boston Hempfest is organized by the Massachusetts Cannabis Reform Coalition (MassCANN).

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The Parkman Bandstand located on the eastern side of Boston Common. GETTY IMAGES

19-year-old shot on Boston Common

Boston police have taken three into custody for the shooting on the Common, but the investigation continues.

KRISTIN TOUSSAINT

Boston police are investigating a shooting that occurred on Boston Common Tuesday evening, leaving a 19-year-old critically injured.

The shooting took place near the park's bandstand around 6:45 p.m. Three people are in custody after a hectic scene with multiple police chases, officials told reporters at the scene on Tuesday evening.

As of Wednesday morning, no charges have been filed against those three.

The victim's identity has not yet been released. Boston Police Commissioner William Evans told reporters that the victim, from Hyde Park, was in critical condition at Tufts Medical Center, according to the Boston Globe. A gun was recovered at the scene as well, Evans said Tuesday night.

Officials do not believe this is a random act, he added. The victim and the three in custody are known to the police and officials believe an argument occurred before the gunfire started.

The three in custody led the police on multiple chases, in which two of them were on mopeds, officials said, and the other on foot.

One of the persons of interest fled into the train tunnel at the Arlington MBTA Station.

"When the train came, I was about to board, he just ran in front of me and went into the tunnel and police just came down," Emerson junior Yilin Zhen told WBZ.

Zhen said she didn't get a good look at the person "because he kind of seemed suspicious."

Mayor Marty Walsh was at the scene Tuesday night and spoke out about what seems to be an increase in gun violence in the Boston metropolitan area.

"These are happening too much, these shootings," he said, speaking to local press.

He noted that Boston had a six-week period "where we've had a pretty relatively peaceful summer." Still, he urged the public to help police get guns out of the hands of teenagers and off of the streets.

"Life is too valuable," he said.

HARVARD FELLOWS

Sean Spicer, Chelsea Manning coming to Harvard as visiting fellows

What do Sean Spicer and Chelsea Manning have in common? The two have just been announced as visiting fellows at Harvard's Institute of Politics.

The former press secretary to President Donald Trump and the former U.S. Army analyst who leaked secret military documents will join two other visiting fellows for the 2017-18 academic year: Sylvester James Jr., mayor of Kansas City, Mo., and CNN political commentator Robby Mook.

"Broadening the range and depth of opportunity for students to hear from and engage with experts, leaders and policy-shapers is a cornerstone of the Institute of Politics," said Bill Delahunt, IOP acting director, in a statement. "We welcome the breadth of thought-provoking viewpoints on race, gender, politics and the media."

Spicer, who resigned from his role as press secretary in July as a protest of Anthony Scaramucci's (short-lived) appointment, holds a master's degree from the Naval War College and serves as a commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve.

Manning, who was released from prison in May after serving seven years in prison, marks IOP's first transgender fellow. She is a Washington-based network security expert and speaks on "the social, technological and economic ramifications of Artificial Intelligence" in op-ed columns.

These four add to the previously announced Visiting Fellows for a full lineup including Joe Scarborough and Mika Brzezinski, co-hosts of MSNBC's "Morning Joe," Corey Lewandowski, Guy Benson, Mary Katherine Ham, Gov. Steven Beshear and Cornell William Brooks. KRISTIN TOUSSAINT

Liberal, conservative lawmakers offer opposing healthcare ideas

Neither plan was thought likely to succeed in a Congress exhausted with fighting over the issue, raising questions over whether lawmakers would instead prop up the health benefits offered under former President Barack Obama's healthcare law.

REUTERS

U.S. senators unveiled two opposing visions of a healthcare system in the United States on Wednesday — leading liberals advocating government insurance for all and several Republicans proposing an eleventh-hour repeal of Obamacare to replace it with programs run by the states.

Independent Sen. Bernie Sanders, a 2016 Democratic Party presidential candidate, held a campaign-style gathering at which enthusiasts applauded as he proposed extending the federal Medicare health insurance program for seniors to include everyone.

"The American people want to know what we are going to do to fix a dysfunctional healthcare system which costs us twice as much per person as any other country and yet leaves 28 million people uninsured, and even more underinsured," Sanders declared.

Sen. Elizabeth Warren, one of 16 Democratic co-sponsors for Sanders' proposal, told the gathering it was time to go a step beyond Obamacare, the 2010 law officially called the Affordable Care Act that expanded health coverage to 20 million Americans.

"We will say that in this country everyone gets a basic right to healthcare," Warren said.

But in an office building nearby, Republican senators announced they were offering a "last chance" to repeal Obamacare, before a parliamentary procedure allowing them to pass it with a simple majority, instead of a three-fifths majority like most Senate legislation, expires at the end of September.

They proposed replacing the law with a program that would give states money in the form of block grants to run their own healthcare programs.

Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, one of the plan's authors, said he was not ready to give up the long-held Republican goal of repealing Obamacare despite a stunning failure to muster enough votes within the party this summer to kill the law.

"The idea that the Republican party has done its best to repeal and replace Obamacare is a joke," said Graham, who was joined by fellow Republican Bill Cassidy in the effort.

A system of U.S. government-run healthcare for all is anathema to many Republicans, who think the hybrid Obamacare system in which government subsidizes private health insurance already was a step too far.

Republicans' last attempt in July to overturn Obamacare fell one vote short in the Senate in a humiliating defeat for President Donald Trump and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

In addition to the Sanders and Graham-Cassidy proposals, a bipartisan effort is under way in the Senate health committee to repair Obamacare without repealing it, by protecting subsidies that are paid to insurance companies to help offset discounts under the program.

ILLUSTRATION BY BILLY BECERRA, METRO

> *"The American people want to know what we are going to do to fix a dysfunctional healthcare system which costs us twice as much per person as any other country and yet leaves 28 million people uninsured, and even more underinsured."*
>
> Sen. Bernie Sanders

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Don't go to Hawaii unless you're ready for your life to change.

After growing up on Florida's beaches, I didn't expect to find enlightenment standing on another one halfway around the world. Yet there I was, toes in the sand of Waikiki Beach just a couple hours after landing and knowing that this place was different.

Oahu claims the majority of Hawaii's population, and it's not hard to see why. Each of Hawaii's islands has its own identity. Save Maui for when you've married rich, because Oahu is the millennial paradise where you can delve into everything that Hawaii has to offer, from unspoiled wilderness to food experiences worth Instagramming. But what you'll really find is yourself.

Commune with nature

It's easy to understand why Hawaiians feel beloved by a greater power, the Spirit of Aloha, which roughly translates to belonging to the universe.

Frankly, we'd all probably feel a lot more generous if the weather were humidity-free (thanks, trade winds!) and sunny 365 days a year. This is the kind of idea you, type-A city dweller, are probably rolling your eyes at — and there's nothing like getting on a surfboard to understand it.

The North Shore awaits pros (in the winter) and amateurs all year long year to live that "Point Break" life. The pros at Hans Hedemann Surf School in Turtle Bay await to get from you zero to riding a wave in an hour, guaranteed.

And once you feel the push of the wave against your board, like the universe urging you on, there's no doubt we're all connected.

Hanauma Bay is a marvel from above the water and below. PHOTOS BY EVA KIS

Back on land

Once you can't paddle anymore, take it easy with some snorkeling. Hanauma Bay's circular inlet shields it from rougher waters so swimming won't tire you out, and most of the spectacular reef is less than 10 feet underwater, with the technicolor bevy of tropical fish swimming right up to you.

For hikers, **Diamond Head** is the iconic plateau that doubles as Oahu's own Hollywood sign, greeting visitors from the moment they land at Honolulu Airport. The trail gets crowded and lacks shade, but it's worth the 45-minute trek for the breathtaking views of downtown.

Prefer natural beauty? Get to **Makapuu Lighthouse** before dawn for the most spectacular hike up the soaring cliff to watch the sun rise over the endless ocean all around you.

Or take a helicopter tour of the **North Shore**, so untouched by development that you can practically hear the "Jurassic Park" theme song.

Best beaches

Waikiki Beach is great for a walk to see all the old hotels — the pink sand castle that is the Royal Hawaiian remains a stunning sight 90 years after it was built — and give a shaka sign to surfing's godfather The Duke, whose statue on Kalakaua Avenue is regularly replenished with leis.

For those envy-worthy Instas of sparkling sands and calm waters that look as if you're on a private island, take a ride to **Kailua Beach**. The most traffic you'll come across are kayakers to the twin islets just offshore.

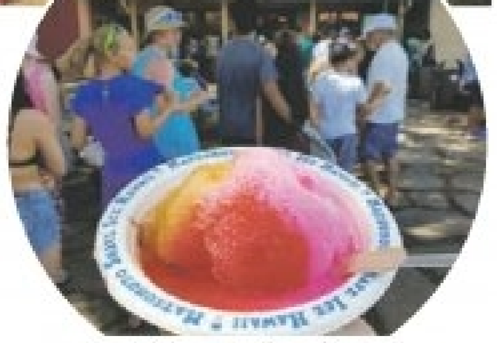
For swimming, you'll want to lock down a beach chair along the stretch of sand in front of **Fort DeRussy**. Secluded from the din of traffic, there's also a rocky pier so low to the water that waves crash across your feet, and makes for a great spot to glimpse of seals and sea turtles that wander into the bay.

Adventures in food

Because you can't just fortify your soul, there's plenty of amazing food adventures to be had. The North Shore is renowned for its food trucks serving up the freshest peel-and-eat shrimp, and the most famous of them is **Giovanni's Shrimp Truck**.

Nearby in the village of Hale'iwa, the always-crowded **Matsumoto Shave Ice** shop with its perpetual line out the door for its famous ices in dozens of flavors, all made with natural fruit syrups.

Even food halls have made it to Oahu, and **The Street** is exceptional not just for its collection of stalls (don't miss Kai Poke's beautifully composed bowls) but the ambiance, like you're eating under the shade of palm trees. The stroll to get there through the open-air marvel that is the International Market Place mall is lovely, too.



Matsumoto Shaved Ice

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While the Spirit of Aloha is certainly fortifying, the six-hour time difference from the East Coast makes it easy to get up way earlier in the morning than you're used to.

Get your early start at the brand new Holiday Inn Express Waikiki, which comes with its own motto to inspire you: Be the Readiest. That doesn't just mean a great night's sleep in its efficient but comfortable rooms — the expanded breakfast bar offers made-to-order pancake machine and exclusive Cinnabon rolls. There's even an outdoor patio to enjoy your meal, because why wouldn't you want to spend every second in this incredible weather?

A 10-minute walk to downtown Honolulu and just five minutes to the beach makes it ideally located. And when you need a break, lay out on the hotel's pool deck or play a round of miniature golf.

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Carnival — 7-Day Europe Fr $629* pp — Ocean View Fr $899* pp — Balcony Fr $1129* pp
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3 Things to watch for as Pats face New Orleans

Shootout

1

If net yards are your go-to stat (fine, it probably isn't but still), the Saints and Patriots have the two worst defenses in the league through one week of football.

The Pats allowed 537 net yards on defense last week in the loss to the Chiefs, and the Saints gave up 470 yards Monday night in a loss to the Vikings. Expect Tom Brady and Drew Brees to have monster outings, as both the Saints and Pats defenses made mediocre quarterbacks look like world-beaters last week.

Minnesota's Sam Bradford finished the night against the Saints' D with a 143.0 passer rating (27-of-32 for 346 yards and three TDs) while Alex Smith had a 148.6 passer rating (28-of-35 for 368 yards and four TDs) against the Pats' putrid defense.

Star power?

2

Brandin Cooks had a fine debut with the Patriots, catching three balls for 88 yards. But the Patriots needed Cooks to be more than "fine" in Week 1 against the Chiefs. The loss of Julian Edelman hurt big-time in Week 1, and the Pats need someone to step-up and be Brady's new security blanket. Cooks found the end zone eight times last season — an average of every other game in an NFL season — so it would be nice if he could haul one in Sunday against New Orleans.

Rob Gronkowski must be better as well. Gronk had just two catches on six targets last week as Eric Berry was draped over him all game (until Berry went down with an injury).

Limit big plays

3

Heading into the 2017 NFL season, the Patriots defense was seemingly stacked. Their secondary was being touted as "best in the league" with Stephon Gilmore and Malcolm Butler at the corners, and Devin McCourty at safety. Dont'a Hightower was getting best LB in the league buzz and Trey Flowers would take care of things up front.

Then Week 1 happened.

The most startling stat comes from Rich Hill of patspulpit.com. Hill wrote this week that the longest touchdown the Patriots gave up all year in 2016 was a 30-yarder to Ben Roethlisberger and the Steelers in garbage time of the AFC title game. In the Chiefs game alone, the Pats gave up two 75-yard-plus scoring plays — a 75-yard TD reception by Tyreek Hill and a 78-yard TD run by Hunt.

MATT BURKE

WEEK 2

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Rest easy, the Pats are going to be just fine

Tom Brady and Danny Picard want everyone to just calm the [expletive] down. GETTY IMAGES

OPINION

DANNY PICARD
@dannypicard

Somewhere, lost in the shuffle of the New England Patriots' injuries, bad play-calling, and porous defense in Week 1, was the fact that the Kansas City Chiefs looked like the best team in football last Thursday night.

To clarify, Kansas City is not actually the best team in the NFL. But going into Gillette Stadium on opening night, on national television, outscoring the defending champs 21-0 in the fourth quarter, and defeating the Patriots 42-27 has to be worth something.

The Chiefs are a good team with a nice defense, an above-average veteran quarterback, and a home-field that's one of the toughest places to play in the league. They were on the road in Week 1, obviously. But they were still able to pull off something that not many thought they could.

I'm not making excuses here. I'm just pointing out the facts. And the fact of the matter is, the Patriots are not done. Their season is not over. And unless you had them rolling through the Super Bowl with a perfect 19-0 record, most projections for New England this season will probably end up being correct.

I feel like we do this every year. When adversity strikes, people lose their minds. They go mad. It's as if we've seen the last of the ever-so-dominant Patriots.

Well, I'm here to tell you, just like I do every year, to calm the [expletive] down.

I'll once again be called a homer and a fanboy and all the other names that go along with being completely logical in a sports-talk world that is anything but to those who control the microphone on the big stage. But more often than not, logic prevails, and I'm the one that ends up being right. Most of the time.

So let's do this again. Say it with me.

"The New England Patriots are going to be just fine."

Have the injuries affected them? Of course. Losing Julian Edelman alone was a huge blow. And now, who knows what the season holds for the banged up Danny Amendola and Dont'a Hightower.

But it could be worse. They could be without Rob Gronkowski, Brandin Cooks, Chris Hogan, and a running back group that's capable of spreading the field and giving Tom Brady even more options.

It's tough not to think of recently retired wideout Anquan Boldin during this time. As of last week at least, Boldin and the Patriots reportedly had a "mutual interest" in each other. Even if Boldin remains retired, the Patriots have enough offensive weapons to do the job. And on defense, even if Hightower's knee injury keeps him out for an extended period, let's not forget how talented the Patriots' secondary is.

Communication issues on both offense and defense can be fixed. And I fully expect Bill Belichick, Josh McDaniels, and Matt Patricia to have this team ready for Week 2 in New Orleans against a Saints team that's coming off a 29-19 loss to the Vikings in Minnesota on Monday night.

If Sam Bradford is good for three touchdowns and 346 pass yards, then Brady is good for 425 pass yards and four touchdowns against a Saints defense that ranked worst in the National Football League last season.

The Patriots are a seven-point favorite on Sunday. I don't know if they'll cover that spread. But I do know that, after a disappointing loss to Kansas City, they'll be ready for New Orleans.

And if that's the case, I don't know why you wouldn't put your money on the Patriots to pick up their first win of the season.

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NFL power rankings | by Luke Miller

No. 1

Chiefs 1-0 (W at NE)

The Chiefs went into Foxboro and won behind an explosive offensive performance highlighted by rookie Kareem Hunt, rebounding from a fumble on his first carry to rack up 246 total yards from scrimmage.

No. 2

Raiders 1-0 (W at TEN)

Marshawn Lynch looked like his old self in his debut for Oakland — racking up 76 yards. He wasn't the only new weapon to deliver for an already potent Raider offense either; tight end Jared Cook had 56 receiving yards. Kicker Giorgio Tavecchio, signed to fill in for Sebastian Janikowski, went 4-for-4.

No. 3

Packers 1-0 (W vs. SEA)

The Packers had a much more dominating performance against the Seahawks than the final score fully implies. They managed to shut down everything the Seahawks tried to do on offense, limiting them to 225 yards while sacking Russell Wilson three times and forcing a fumble.

No. 4

Cowboys 1-0 (W vs. NYG)

The Cowboys entered Sunday with the good news that Ezekiel Elliott may be eligible to play the entire 2017 season. That didn't erase any plans to run him as often as possible. Elliott's 24 carries for 104 yards and a vintage Jason Witten touchdown dispatched the Giants with ease.

No. 5

Falcons 1-0 (W at CHI)

The Falcons escaped a close match with the Bears thanks to the most surprising touchdown of the weekend. Tight end Austin Hooper turned up wide open for a bomb into blown coverage and then — there's really no word for it besides lumbered — the rest of the way for an 88-yard TD.

No. 6

Patriots 0-1 (L vs. KC)

The Patriots have started seasons poorly before, sure. But they had never lost in Gillette Stadium after leading at the half. After surrendering 537 yards and 42 points to the Chiefs, they better have used the long week to get ready for a trip to New Orleans.

No. 7

Steelers 1-0 (W vs. CLE)

Rookie T.J. Watt (two sacks and an interception in his debut) Antonio Brown (11 catches for 182 yards) and tight end Jesse James (two touchdowns) — performed exceptionally Sunday. Le'Veon Bell showed rust, 13 touches led to just 45 yards, a career low in output.

No. 8

Sehawks 1-0 (L at GB)

After Week 1, the answer to Seattle's question mark in the backfield is that there isn't one — yet. Russell Wilson led the team in rushing with just 40 yards. Rookie Chris Carson took one of his six carries for a 30-yard gain. Eddie Lacy on the other hand had five carries for just three yards.

No. 9

Buccaneers (Wk1 postponed)

The Bucs will finally get to start their season at home against Chicago this week. It remains to be seen how Irma will affect their readiness to host, though reports suggest the team is leaning heavily toward playing their Week 2 game in Tampa.

No. 10

Giants 0-1 (L at DAL)

The big concerns about the Giants were evident in their Week 1 display in Dallas. The offensive line got no push for a running game and allowed Eli Manning to be sacked three times and hurried all night. A missing Odell Beckham Jr. compounded matters.

Best of the rest

11 — Vikings (1-0)
12 — Eagles (1-0)
13 — Lions (1-0)
14 — Ravens (1-0)
15 — Panthers (1-0)
16 — Broncos (1-0)
17 — Titans (0-1)
18 — Dolphins (Postponed)
19 — Washington (0-1)
20 — Jaguars (1-0)
21 — Rams (1-0)
22 — Chargers (0-1)
23 — Saints (0-1)
24 — Texans (0-1)

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LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. SU17P1842EA

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

Estate of: **Hazel Butler**
Date of Death: **06/23/2012**

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all interested persons: A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **James Butler** of **Boston MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **James Butler** of **Boston MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/10/2017.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Joan P Armstrong, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 28, 2017

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

Docket No. SU17D2002DR

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

Nicole Walker vs. Ronald Walker

To the Defendant:
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for **an irretrievable breakdown of the marriage under G.L. c. 208 1B**. The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: **Nicole Walker, 29 Crowell St, #3, Dorchester, MA 02124** your answer, if any, on or before **11/16/2017**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

WITNESS, Hon. Joan P Armstrong, First Justice of this Court.

Date: September 6, 2017

Register of Probate

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CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. SU17P1692EA

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Estate of: **John P Grinold**
Date of Death: **04/21/2017**

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300

To all interested persons: A Petition for **Formal Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Catherine B. Grinold** of **Brighton MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Catherine B. Grinold** of **Brighton MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/02/2017.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Joan P Armstrong, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 21, 2017

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Glenda Medeiros and John G. Cremona to NCB Savings Bank FSB, dated October 30, 1995 and recorded with the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds at Book 20121, Page 273 as affected by a confirmatory mortgage recorded with said Deeds at Book 20176, Page 155, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by assignment from NCB Savings Bank, FSB to Matrix Capital Bank dated March 24, 1997 and recorded with said registry on March 26, 2007 at Book 41504 Page 264 and by assignment from Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as receiver for United Western Bank f/k/a Matrix Capital Bank to First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company dated May 21, 2015 and recorded with said registry on June 2, 2015 at Book 54541 Page 189, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 a.m. on October 6, 2017, on the mortgaged premises located at 300 Summer Street, Unit 21, Artist Building at 300 Summer Condominium, Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT: A leasehold interest in and to Live/Work Space No. 21, together with the nonexclusive use and enjoyment of the common areas, facilities and improvements in the Artist Building at 300 Summer Cooperative (''Project''), pursuant to a Proprietary Lease (''Proprietary Lease'') dated October 30, 1995, between Artist Building at 300 Summer Cooperative Corporation, as landlord, and Glenda Medeiros and John G. Cremona, as tenant; a Notice of Lease for such Proprietary Lease is being recorded herewith with the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds. The above-described Live/Work Space, together with the nonexclusive use and enjoyment of the common areas, facilities and improvements of the Project are collectively referred to as ''Leased Premises''. Pursuant to an unrecorded Assignment of Lease, also of even date herewith, the Proprietary Lease was assigned to Lender by Borrower. The Leased Premises are located within the so-called ''Artists Unit'' of the Artist Building at 300 Summer Condominium (the ''Condominium'') created pursuant to Chapter 183A of the Massachusetts General Laws as amended, by Master Deed dated October 25, 1995, and recorded with the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 20105, Page 260; the location of the above-described Live/Work Space within such Artists Unit is shown on the floor plans of the Condominium recorded with the aforesaid Master Deed.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 20121, Page 271.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of Five Thousand ($5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California Street, Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

FIRST-CITIZENS BANK & TRUST COMPANY
Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California Street, Newton, MA 02458
(617) 558-0500
201502-0304 – PRP

8/31/2017, 9/07/2017
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Across

1 "Cheers!"
6 Blue expanse
9 Persona non –
14 Girl-watcher
15 Numero –
16 Bumpkins
17 What's left
19 Wrinkle removers
20 Drink with scones
21 Gotcha! (2 wds.)
22 Whiz
23 Risque
25 Piece of fish
26 Parthenon site
29 Onetime Trevi Fountain coins
31 Employee
32 Hooded jackets worn in the Arctic
36 Discharge
37 Grill, maybe
38 Yarn measure
40 Spanish coins
43 Maurice's darling
45 Salmon variety
46 Buildings and land
47 Outlaw – James
50 Good buy
51 Seer's deck
52 Wrinkled leaf vegetable
54 Take into custody
57 Verdi output
58 Not frankly
61 Adds brandy
62 Delt neighbor
63 Restrict
64 Contest submission
65 Nettle
66 Get melodramatic

Down

1 Unlawful act
2 Ess molding
3 – mater
4 Freighter's place
5 Hex halved
6 Full of lather
7 Trouser part
8 Distant past
9 Sootier
10 Bucolic
11 On top of
12 Doctrine
13 Club, briefly
18 More accommodating
23 Leases out
24 Top-rated
25 To's opposite
26 – -whiz!
27 Freeway access
28 Huron neighbor
29 Roundup gear
30 Pen filler
33 Yet to come
34 NBA great – Malone
35 Nasty mood
37 Pleased sigh
39 Door opener
41 Rapture
42 "Little piggie"
43 Calls out
44 Barnyard female
47 "Shogun" setting
48 Standing tall
49 More ticked off
50 Publicity
51 Decorated tinware
52 French Legion headgear
53 Affirm
54 Fictional captain
55 Quit flying
56 Unit of computer storage
59 Percent ending
60 Pep

metro.us/crossword

1	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	■	9	10	11	12	13
14					■	15			■	16				
17					18				■	19				
20			■	■	21				■	22				
■	■	■	23	24			■	■	25					■
26	27	28				■	29	30			■	■	■	■
31						■	32				33	34	35	■
36				■	■	37			■	■	38			39
■	40			41	42			■	43	44				
■	■	■	■	45				■	46					
■	47	48	49			■	■	50				■	■	■
51					■	52	53			■	■	54	55	56
57					■	58				59	60			
61					■	62			■	63				
64					■	65			■	66				

metro.us/sudoku

easy

	9	4	6			8	5	
				2	5			
	8	3					2	
1					9	4		
		8	2		7	6		
		5	3					8
	7					5	3	
			4	5				
	5	2			1	9	6	

hard

6	1			8			9	5
7	8	5			6			
		4	5	1		8		
			3					
		9				5		
					4			
		8		6	7	9		
			9			1	3	8
9	5			3			7	4

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Pressure will intensify if someone wants you to spend too much or isn't willing to contribute enough around the house or to a joint venture.

Taurus Taking a day trip, going for an interview or signing up for a course will all result in positive gains. Socializing will encourage new friendships and joint endeavors.

Gemini Attending a reunion or reconnecting with an old friend will rejuvenate old dreams. If you share your ideas, a unique partnership will develop.

Cancer Compassion and understanding will speak volumes about the type of person you are. Your advice will be sought after and your popularity will grow.

Leo An opportunity to use your skills, knowledge and experience in a unique way should be looked at in detail. Negotiate on your behalf to get what you want.

Virgo Set your sights on doing something that brings you joy. Turn your passion into a moneymaking endeavor. Trust and believe in your talent, and strive to reach your goals.

Libra Stick to the truth and use common sense when dealing with matters at home or work. Situations will escalate quickly if you aren't cognizant of other people's feelings.

Scorpio Let your creative ability take the reins. No matter what you are pursuing, take a unique approach and do things your way. You have alot to gain if you rely on your instincts.

Sagittarius Don't fold under pressure. If someone is being persuasive or demanding, back away, consider your options and focus on taking care of your objectives.

Capricorn If you share your thoughts, you will receive interesting feedback that will encourage you to make certain changes. Examine the way you deal with partners.

Aquarius Put more thought and creativity into whatever job you take on. Being unique will help you draw attention to whatever you do. Try something new.

Pisces A partnership can be formed if you make suggestions that will even out the playing field. Equality will be important to avoid dissatisfaction. **EUGENIA LAST**

Yesterday's answers

R	A	G	■	I	T	E	M	S	■	W	O	R	T	H
U	F	O	■	N	A	V	E	L	■	I	R	E	N	E
F	I	B	■	S	E	E	D	Y	■	L	E	F	T	Y
F	R	A	M	E	■	■	S	E	A	L	■	■	■	■
S	E	D	U	C	E	D	■	R	U	I	N	I	N	G
■	■	■	L	U	R	E	S	■	F	E	U	D	A	L
L	I	B	E	R	A	L	L	Y	■	■	T	A	D	A
H	B	O	■	E	S	T	E	E	M	S	■	H	E	R
A	S	A	P	■	■	S	E	M	A	P	H	O	R	E
S	E	R	A	P	E	■	K	E	N	Y	A	■	■	■
A	N	S	W	E	R	S	■	N	E	P	H	E	W	S
■	■	■	■	E	G	A	D	■	■	L	A	T	H	E
F	A	V	O	R	■	V	I	L	L	A	■	H	O	W
O	L	I	V	E	■	O	N	I	O	N	■	E	S	E
P	L	E	A	D	■	R	E	V	U	E	■	R	E	D

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